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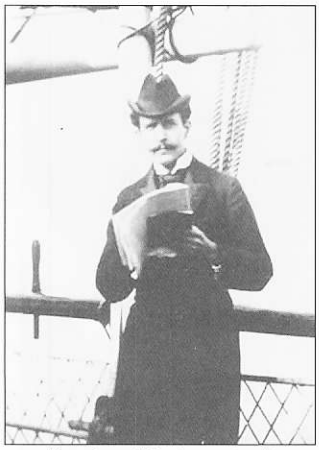
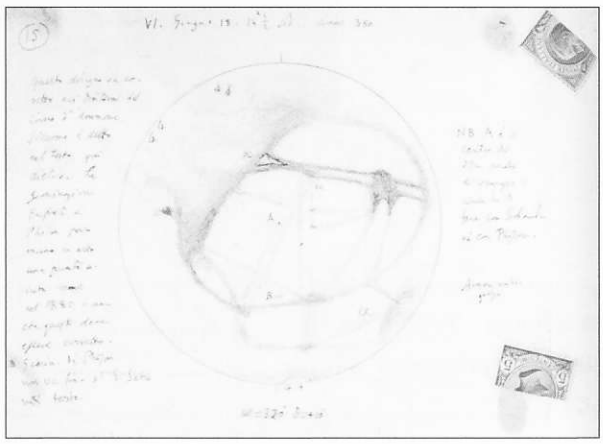


Eugène M. Antoniadi

Percival Lowell

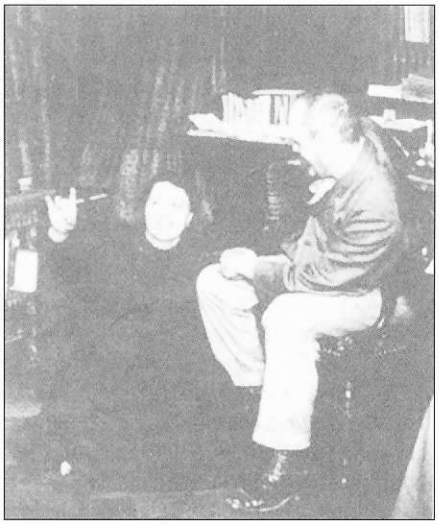
Giovanni Schiaparelli

Nikola Tesla

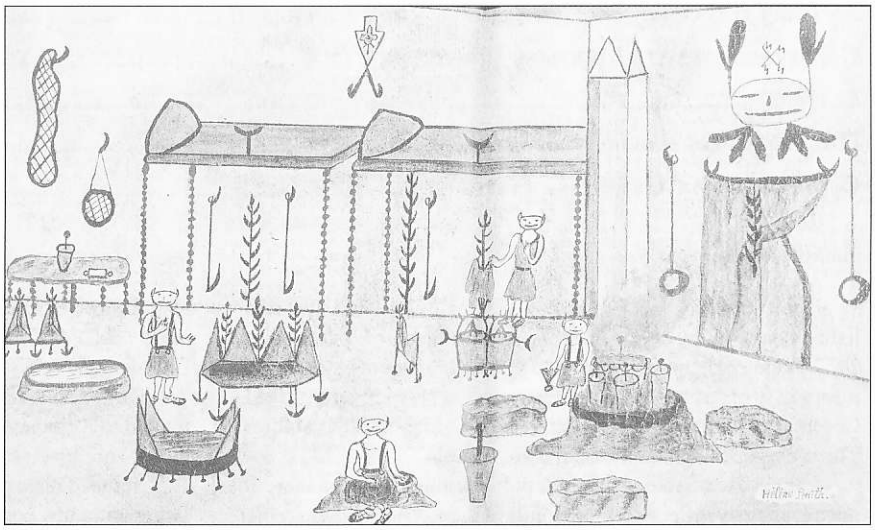


Schiaparelli's notebook showing his Martian observations for June 19, 1890

French illustrator Albert Robida imagined Martians attempting to communicate with Earth in 1910



Théodore Flournoy with the medium "Hélène Smith"



Interior of a Martian dwelling, painted by Hélène Smith

CONVERSATIONS WITH MARTIANS

INTERNATIONAL UFO REPORTER

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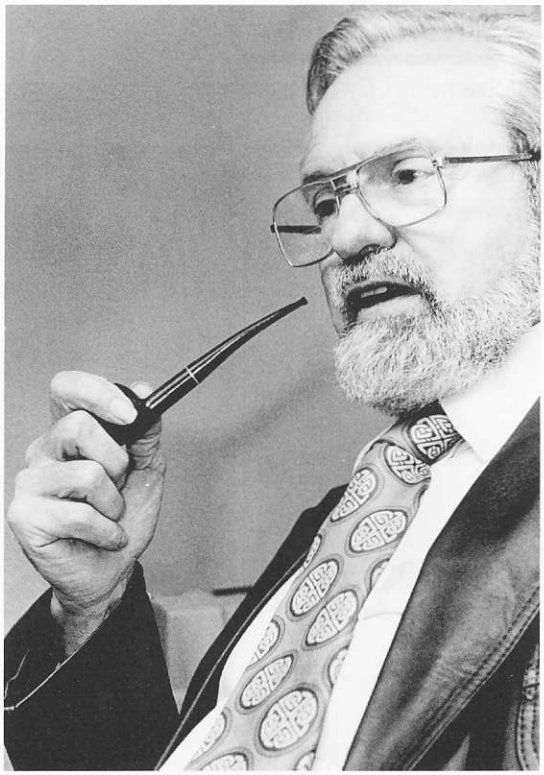

J. Allen Hynek
1910-1986

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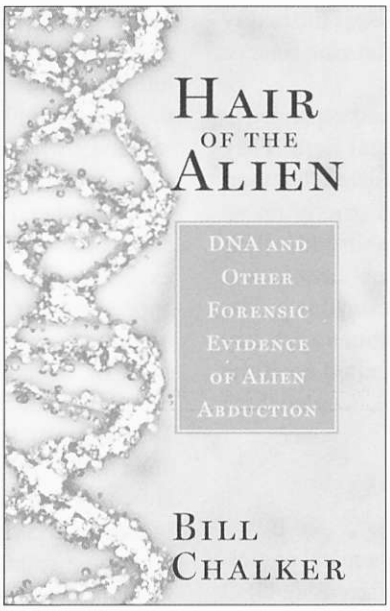
ALIENS, HAIR, AND DNA

BY BILL CHALKER

In a previous article in *IUR* ("Strange Evidence," Spring 1999, pp. 3–16, 31), I addressed the issue of physical and genetic evidence for the abduction phenomenon. My forthcoming book *Hair of the Alien: DNA and other Forensic Evidence for Alien Abductions*, to be published by Paraview Pocket Books in July 2005, goes deeper into these topics. It uses the July 23, 1992, Peter Khoury case as a potent touchstone, and examines evidence in cases from diverse locations, including the United States, South America, Africa, China, and my home country of Australia. The UFO subject, and more particularly, the alien abduction controversy, are the crossroads. Where we go from here will be critical for the credibility and future of UFO research.



As a scientist myself, I have often lamented the rarity of high-quality science in UFO study. Too often there is a knee-jerk rejection of even the *possibility* that there might be something to UFOs. The true inquiring spirit of science has not widely or deeply touched the UFO issue. Dr. J. Allen Hynek devoted a chapter in his *UFO Experience: A Scientific Inquiry* (Henry Regnery, 1972) to the problem, titling it "Science Is Not Always What Scientists Do."

In the Kelly Cahill abduction case in the Dandenong foothills outside Melbourne, Australia, on August 8, 1993, independent witnesses have provided information that enabled cross-checking that uncovered a striking degree of similar information, therefore offering a compelling case for the reality of the strange events described. A range of apparently related physical traces also strengthens the ontological status of the event and may represent compelling evidence for a reality behind abduction events. Phenomena Research Australia (PRA) claimed it had two laboratories confirm a number of unusual anomalies and magnetic variations at the apparent site of the UFO landing. There appeared to be some interesting changes or differences in soil chemistry—above-average sulphur content, the presence of pyrene (which occurs in coal tar and is also obtained by the destructive hydrogenation of hard coal), and tannic acid—in a crescent-shaped indentation. Also found at the site was a triangle formation of dead grass on the ground.

Unfortunately, other than a few tantalizing fragments it has doled out, none of these findings have been comprehensively reported by PRA, despite the passage of a decade. Sadly, even the key witness, Kelly Cahill, who bravely came forward, has not been made privy to the full data that PRA reports it has on the incident. Given my own inability to gain full access to its data on the case, particularly what seemed provocative physical data, I grew to regret my decision of having facilitated PRA's involvement in the first place. As a consequence, a very promising case has not realized its full potential. My own account of the complex episode appeared in *IUR* ("An Extraordinary Encounter in the Dandenong Foothills," September/October 1994, pp. 4–8, 18–20). I also referred to the case in some detail in *The Oz Files: The Australian UFO Story* (Duffy and Snellgrove, 1996). Kelly Cahill wrote her own book about the experience, *Encounter* (HarperCollins, 1996).

The difficulties and frustrations I have experienced in seeking full access to the research conducted in Cahill's case made me more determined than ever to try to extract the full potential of the physical evidence in Khoury's abduction encounter.

Over the years I have been fortunate to work with other scientists on the UFO problem in a sort of invisible college, like the one Hynek helped develop—an informal network of scientists who view the UFO phenomenon as worthy of serious attention. Many of my colleagues in this invisible college prefer to contribute anonymously because "the UFO problem" is seen as a "forbidden science."

Bill Chalker, an IUR *contributing editor, works as a chemist in the food industry. He has written extensively on the UFO phenomenon in his native Australia and elsewhere.*

Hynek (left) and the author

I have been working with this group of invisible-college specialists to bring hard science to the controversial field of alien abductions. The bizarre events that centered on Khoury provided an extraordinary opportunity to assess the reality of abduction experiences. It was time that forensic science confronted the alien abduction controversy.

By early 1998, my circle of colleagues had expanded to include some scientists from the biochemical field. They were cautiously interested in UFOs, but insisted that their involvement would need to be conducted strictly on an anonymous basis. The biochemists were established in their field, with well-regarded, peer-reviewed publications and research. Because I had an existing and reasonable public profile and strong and established connections with key researchers worldwide, our group, which called itself the Anomaly Physical Evidence Group (APEG), decided that I would be its public face.

DNA analysis: Phase one

And so it was that in 1998, as my new biochemical associates were lamenting the general absence of credible UFO evidence pertinent to their field (specifically biological samples), I pointed to a credible sample, noting that in the Khoury case a hair sample had been recovered. Briefly, Peter Khoury had an encounter in July 1992, in his own home, with two odd but human-like female beings. After the encounter, he discovered a strand of hair wrapped around his penis, which he fortunately retained. It was this hair that has been the focus of the analysis.

Not surprisingly, my scientific associates were immediately interested. Our discussions then focused on the fact that techniques like polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplification and sequencing of mitochondrial DNA on the hair sample might provide a strong test for the credibility of abduction stories and an opportunity to do some real science in an area heretofore dominated by wild claims and theories.

Could a DNA-mediated, forensic approach help determine the reality of the abduction experience? If these bizarre episodes occur at a physical level, at least as we understand it, then a DNA analysis of the hair sample—the "alien hair"—would provide us with a unique opportunity to apply some real science to this controversial area. This would be a rigorous test of the credibility of Peter's extraordinary claim. I pointed this out to Khoury, who told me that he was eager to have the evidence tested and looked forward to hearing the results. He said this even knowing that since this was a sexual encounter, he would have some explaining to do to his wife if the hair turned out to be of prosaic human origin.

The focused DNA profiling technique we used in the Khoury case goes to the very heart of one of the key claims behind the theorized abduction program: alien/human hybridization. It provides an opportunity for testing the credibility of the claim that aliens are creating hybrids composed of both alien and human genetic material. If such claims are true, there should be some compatibility in the DNA of alleged alien specimens, but some anomalies not readily reconciled with known human DNA variability should also be in evidence. Indeed, our original analysis confirmed the alien hair came from someone who was biologically close to normal human genetics, but of a highly unusual racial type.

Together, two distinct phases of DNA analyses undertaken on the hair sample recovered from Khoury's bizarre experience provide a striking array of genetic findings. They appear to evince advanced DNA techniques and anomalies of the sort we are only now discovering, or starting to make sense of, in mainstream biotechnology.

While the phase-one results, initially released in the 1999 *IUR* article, were not in themselves proof of the hair's alien nature, they were certainly puzzling and provocative. How is it that rare Asian Mongoloid DNA was found in a blonde hair sample which—if related to the blonde woman Khoury encountered—would have been expected to have most likely yielded a Caucasian DNA profile? The original DNA work was done on the shaft of the hair. More fascinating anomalies were found in the root of the hair when the soft-root hair-tissue mitochondrial DNA was extracted.

DNA analysis: Phase two

The very strange evidence in the new phase-two results on the blonde alien hair revealed an extraordinary anomaly. Depending on whether we analyzed the hard hair shaft or the soft root, its mitochondrial DNA appeared to be of two different kinds. From the lower hair shaft we again obtained the same rare Chinese mitochondrial DNA substitution. But from soft-root tissue, we obtained a novel Basque/Gaelic-type mitochondrial DNA, which had a rare substitution for that racial grouping along with several other characteristic substitutions.

This in itself was a stunning result. The testing methodology meant that prosaic explanations such as contamina-

tion or laboratory error were ruled out. In any normal human DNA, we should obtain consistent DNA irrespective of where the sample comes from, be it hair, blood, or other tissue. But incredibly, here within the one piece of hair we were getting two types of strikingly different DNA, depending on where the mitochondrial DNA testing occurred. The rare Chinese-type DNA in the hair shaft was confirmed, and a rare possible Basque/Gaelic-type DNA was found in the root section. The biochemists could not explain this strange anomaly. There was no evidence of a somewhat rare DNA phenomenon called *heteroplasmy* (where two different mitochondrial DNAs rarely appear within the same sample, usually a result of coexistence of mutant mitochondrial and "wild-type" DNA molecules within a cell or tissue). Heteroplasmy, which is more readily found in human hair than other parts of the body, refers to single-base transitions in the mitochondrial DNA. For example, G to A, or C to T. They are not big changes. Environmental exposure and aging can be factors.

A research article in *Nature Biotechnology* in 2000 that described cutting-edge hybrid cloning techniques to treat hair loss provided a clue. We may have encountered evidence of an extraordinary alien analogue of these techniques in Khoury's encounter.

Perhaps even more controversially, we also have findings of nuclear DNA suggestive of possible viral resistance. The hair sample seems to show two deleted genes that control production of the CCR5 protein. This protein makes it possible for the HIV virus to enter cells; its absence can thus confer immunity to HIV-AIDS and may also provide resistance to other viruses such as smallpox. The implications are startling because less than 1% of the population has the deleted CCR5 form, which makes the already unusual hair sample even more provocative. And the CCR5 mutation occurred only about 5,000 years ago, further adding to the intrigue. Still, I must note that the limited nuclear DNA results were insufficient to achieve a completely clear result on this matter.

The DNA forensic work has given us an extraordinary level of certainty that the July 1992 encounter actually occurred. All the evidence argues that the experience and the anomalous hair are not consistent with a hoax, a delusion, or other fantasy. The hair sample PCR DNA study was conducted by Ph.D. biochemists, well-established in their field, with well-regarded peer-reviewed publications and research in mainstream biochemistry. Their study was conducted in a professional private biochemistry laboratory. Other DNA studies conducted by the same team on other evidence, such as samples from encounter cases on the mid-north coast of New South Wales and Queensland, an alleged alien claw from California, and the dress worn by Betty Hill during her 1961 abduction in New Hampshire, have not uncovered evidence as interesting as that found in the Khoury study. Independent scientists associated with the research on some of this other evidence were confident and impressed with the quality of the biochemists' work in those studies and the original Khoury research.

Without this physical evidence, it would be tempting to attribute Khoury's 1992 encounter to the doctor-prescribed medication Peter was taking for a head injury. However, the hair evidence, which ultimately yielded unusual DNA results, supporting rather than conflicting with the reality of the encounter, cannot be ascribed to hallucination. During his extended period of medication Peter only had this strange experience once. Another similar encounter with apparently the same strange women, some nine months earlier, only recently clarified, occurred without the benefit of medication, injury, or stress as possible factors. In this case no physical evidence such as hair was left behind.

One cannot help noting remarkable similarities between the strange blonde-haired woman who coupled with Villas-Boas and Khoury's blonde interloper, though differences are also apparent. While Khoury didn't recall seeing pubic and underarm hair on the woman, DNA profiles that emerged from the shaft and root of the hair yielded the rare Asian Mongoloid DNA (usually associated with dark hair, but found in this blonde hair) and the rare Basque or Gaelic DNA (usually associated with orange or dark hair color, but again revealed in the blonde hair).

Hair color, in biochemical terms, is determined by varying levels of types of melanin—eumelanin and pheomelanins. The former dictates dark hair, and the latter controls brown hair. Natural blonde hair has a murkier origin, some arguing it is dominated by eumelanin levels or at a genetic level via MC1R (melanocortin 1 receptor) gene diversity. Given that the Villas-Boas blonde was said to have freckled skin and blood-red pubic and underarm hair, it should be noted this is usually associated with high levels of pheomelanin and low levels of eumelanin, linked at a genetic level by nonfunctioning alleles in the MC1R gene. Though hair and skin color are becoming increasingly better documented in terms of their biochemical and genetic origins, these issues have still not been fully resolved. Some success has occurred with the elaboration of the genetic nature of red hair, but the rest of the story is more difficult. *New Scientist* reported in July 2002, "Hair color is usually determined by the cumulative effect of several genes, so there's no such thing as a single gene for blonde hair that could be turned into a simple test, for example." The field of genetics may offer UFO research important genetic signposts by providing possible genetic markers of significance to help unravel the reality behind abduction claims.

Perhaps Khoury's two females are the "hybrids" thought by some to be the goal of an alien genetic project. But the concept of hybrids in abduction accounts was until recently difficult to reconcile with our understanding of the limitations of interspecies breeding. Indeed, if we are dealing with a vastly technologically superior species that could be biologically different from us, hybrids of aliens and humans would seem scientifically improbable and logically implausible. On the other hand, if the aliens have mastered space or

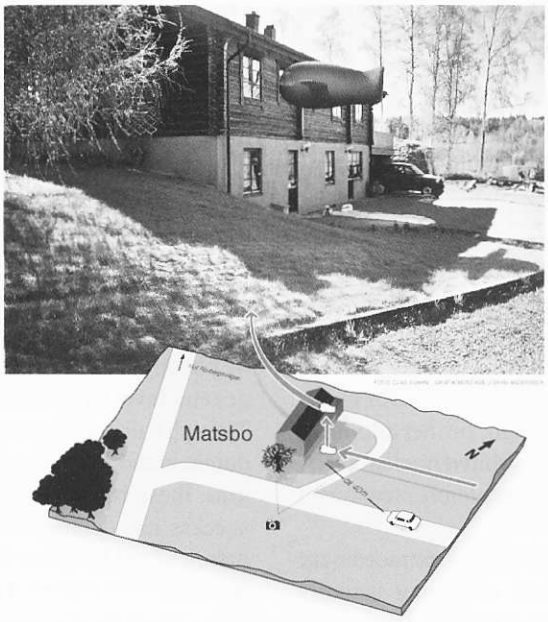
(continued on page 10)

GREEN MINIATURE AIRPLANE HOVERS IN FRONT OF A HOUSE

BY CLAS SVAHN

Close sightings of unidentified flying objects (Close Encounters of the First Kind) in full daylight are unusual, and those with more than one observer are even rarer. The following incident took place in the early summer of 1980, at Matsbo outside the town of Hedemora in central Sweden. The morning was bright and clear when two women, aged 49 and 21, got in their car to drive 13 kilometers to Hedemora in order to do some shopping. The driver was Gunilla Lindholm, and her younger friend was sitting to her right.

The incident began when they had just turned on the road outside Lindholm's house. The dirt road from the house led to a larger road that today has been asphalted, but in 1980 was still a dirt road. To their right, the women could see a field where the family grew grain, and they had a clear view for several hundred meters, all the way to the edge of a forest at the foot of Sjulsbo Klint, a small mountain.



After they had traveled a few hundred meters, the friend suddenly spotted something out of the corner of her eye. Looking out through the side window, she saw an object about thirty meters to the right of the car. The object flew slowly along the field, a meter or so above ground, and even though its speed wasn't very great it still managed to pass the car.

"We were driving about 30 kilometers per hour and were heading for the main road when I looked out through the side window. At that time we came across that thing traveling next to us, on about the same level as the car," the friend remembered.

The object was oval-shaped like a flattened egg, with two small wings with cut-off ends pointing out from the middle. In the front was something resembling the exterior of a small helicopter cockpit, and in the back a small fin pointed upwards. The object had a uniform dark greenish, military color. Given that our investigation was more than 20 years after the incident, it is impossible say exactly how the object looked, and the memories of the two women differ slightly:

"The object was not entirely round, but rather somewhat angular," Gunilla says. "It resembled an egg with a tail in the back and small wings on the sides," the friend says.

They both agree that the wings were short with blunt edges. However, the two of them disagree over how the surface of the object looked. Gunilla says that it was angular while the friend remembers it to be more rounded. Its size was, according to both observers, smaller than a car, and Gunilla estimates it to have been about two meters between the tip of the wings, somewhat shorter than that in length.

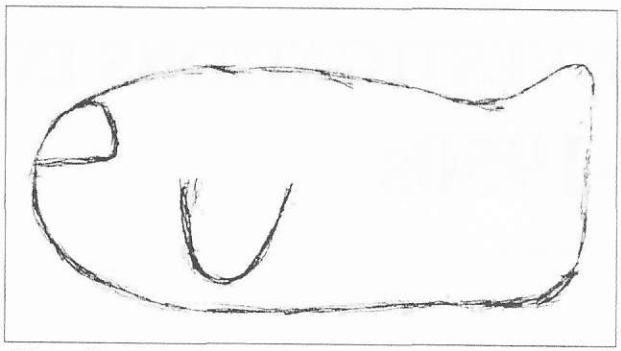
When the strange object had passed the car and had become visible through the windshield, something strange happened.

"I could see how the object flew straight towards a two-story split level house, where it came to a halt in front of a window on the second floor," said Gunilla.

Her friend too remembers clearly how the object suddenly came to a halt and remained stationary in the air for a while. "At first it looked as if the object was going to crash into the house, but before impact it came to a halt for a short while in front of a window."

For a few seconds they both watched the green object remain stationary in front of the house, a mere 15–20 meters from where they were, before it suddenly rose straight up.

Clas Svahn is a longtime UFO investigator and the chairman of UFO-Sweden. This is a translation of his article in UFO-Aktuellt.



Föremålet tecknat av den yngre kvinnan som hon minns det i dag 24 år efteråt.

"It disappeared in a split second," said Gunilla. "Incredibly fast. But before it did it had remained in front of the window, enabling us to get a good look at it. It looked like a cross between an airplane and a helicopter, and it had a dark green color, sort of like the one found on military vehicles."

The friend added that, "When it rose up it didn't change its angle. At the time it was so close to the house that it had no way of making a turn. Instead it just rose very quickly and I could see how it turned right, passed the house, crossed the sky, and then came down in the forest again. We both believed it to have crashed and thus expected smoke to emerge, but that never happened."

None of them heard any sound, but since they never turned off their engine, it's hard to know whether the object was truly silent or not. However, they both agree that they should have heard the sound of an engine had there been any, as they were that close to the object.

I visited the site on May 7, 2002, more than 20 years later. I had just given a lecture to a group of senior citizens in Hedemora. After the lecture several individuals approached me, eager to talk, and one of them was Gunilla Lindholm. We decided to go out to the site.

The area has changed drastically since Gunilla left her house and moved to Hedemora in 1990. At the time of the incident the family was running a farm and raised chickens, which her son has now partially taken over. The house that the object came close to striking is still there; it is a bit uphill, and is a split-level, with its first floor made of brick and an upper story made of wood. Here the small object must have come across an unsuspected obstacle in the otherwise flat terrain, even though it seems strange that it didn't see the house earlier; the view from the field is open and there was plenty of time to take evasive action.

We got into the car and traveled the same route the women did in 1980. The first thing that struck me is how close they were to the object. The distance from where the car came to a halt and the window where the object remained stationary is not more than 30 meters.

I asked Gunilla Lindholm what happened next, after the object had disappeared.

"The only thing we could say afterwards was 'What was that?' But when we later told people at home no one believed us, and so we decided not to talk to people about it. But we know what we saw. That it could just stay stationary in the air like that was very weird."

What had so far acted like a "normal" airplane and moved horizontally across the ground suddenly seemed to have transformed into a helicopter with no rotor blades. When it then rose straight up without a turning or sweeping motion it behaved even less like an airplane.

When I later talked to the friend over the phone I confirmed the essential story, even though some details differ. But that's not very odd, considering that more than twenty years had passed. I asked her how clearly she could see the object.

"Very clearly. It was at the most 40 meters from the car when I first spotted it. It moved parallel to the road and I felt as if it was looking at us, went to the window and looked in there too, and then quickly took off. It all happened so quickly. It was surreal in a way."

Perhaps it was the house itself that drew the object's attention. Perhaps it wasn't an unsuspected obstacle at all, but rather the point of it all. The building had been erected in 1977, three years before the event. The problem with incidents like this one is that they are extremely difficult to check up on afterwards. As long as we don't have an exact date for the observation, the means to check up on it remain limited. And military intelligence is sorry to say that no one reported the incident in 1980. "Had that happened, then perhaps we would have been able to identity it," a source told UFO-Sweden. ✦

Gunilla Lindholm, in front of the Matsbo house.

AIR FORCE UFO INVESTIGATIONS IN THE MID-1950S

BY MICHAEL D. SWORDS

Ufological veterans know that the U.S. Air Force went about its business of discrediting good UFO reports methodically and usually effectively from the middle 1950s onward. Although still toadying up to his Wright-Patterson employers, this drove Allen Hynek crazy, even though he couldn't get the courage up to do anything overt about it. It certainly annoyed Donald Keyhoe, Civilian Saucer Intelligence–New York (CSI-NY), and other early civilian UFO researchers as well, and they *did* do whatever they could about it, if only to try to ensure that the true facts and the real mysteries were not forgotten. Here is one interesting example.

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE: 25 June 55	2. LOCATION: Hillcrest Heights, Maryland	12. CONCLUSIONS: XXX Was Balloon; XXX Probably Balloon; ☐ Possibly Balloon; ☐ Was Aircraft; ☐ Probably Aircraft; ☐ Possibly Aircraft; ☐ Was Astronomical; ☐ Probably Astronomical; ☐ Possibly Astronomical; ☐ Other; ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation; ☐ Unknown
3. DATE-TIME GROUP: Local ____ GMT 26/0245Z (N)	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION: XXX Ground-Visual; ☐ Ground-Radar; ☐ Air-Visual; ☐ Air-Intercept Radar	
5. PHOTOS: XXX Yes ☐ No	6. SOURCE: civilian & military	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION: 7 Min	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS: 1	9. COURSE: E

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING: Round. Yellowish, very brilliant had a trail 4 to 5 times the length of object. No sound. Sometimes stopped, then "oscillated," then moved off at high speed. Erratic motion.

11. COMMENTS: Awaiting 4602d AISS evaluation. 7/22/55 - Prob Ball.

WX Balloon released from Silver Hill WX Observatory.

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

In June 1969, the great UFO investigator Ted Bloecher, formerly of CSI-NY and then with NICAP, wrote the Air Force in the Pentagon about several UFO reports that he was trying to clear up. One of these was a 1955 sighting in Hillcrest Heights, in Prince Georges County, Maryland, which also involved Washington National Airport. The chief of the Community Relations Division of the Office of Information, Maj. James Aikman, responded:

> In response to your June 16 letter, the stimulus for the UFO sighting of June 29, 1955, at Hillcrest Heights, Maryland, has been identified as a weather balloon. The balloon had been released at 10:45 a.m. EDT from the Silver Hill Weather Observatory in Hillcrest Heights. The balloon had a small bright magnesium light that was readily visible to the naked eye. Although the observers reported that there was an electrical failure at the airport at the time of the sighting, there is no confirmation by airport officials that such was the case.

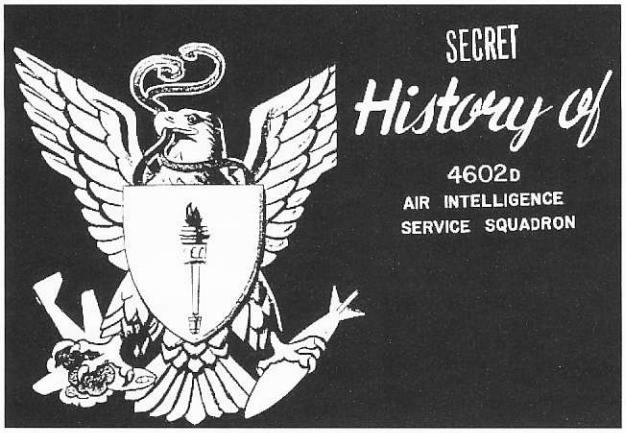
Well, that was too bad. Just another lighted balloon that fooled people. However, Bloecher wrote back: Excuse me, sir, but there seems to be some error here. The date of the case, from official USAF records, was June 26. How could a balloon launched on June 29 be any part of an explanation? Aikman wrote back slightly apologetically: Sorry, actual time of the sighting identified as a weather balloon released from the Silver Hill Observatory at Hillcrest Heights was 10:45 p.m. EDT on June 25 (2:45 Greenwich Mean Time on June 26, the official date). Note that Major Aikman did not actually say in this second letter that the balloon release occurred on June 25 (instead of June 29), just the sighting. Which leaves a rather glaring hole in the purported explanation.

Bloecher, so far as I know, did not pursue this with Aikman. He probably realized that he was dealing with either ignorance or dishonesty or both, and that it wasn't worth it. But what *did* Ted know about this case which got his interest?

Ted Bloecher

From at least as early as 1957, Bloecher had in his hands a copy of the original teletype sent by the USAF investigator of the case (from the 647th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron in Manassas, Virginia) to Air Defense Command in Colorado Springs, the Air Technical Intelli-

Michael D. Swords is professor emeritus of the Environmental Institute, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo.



gence Center at Wright-Patterson AFB, and other Air Force centers. He probably had a copy of the project record card as well. How did he get it? Hynek leaked it to him. These were the official USAF records that he referred to in his correspondence with Aikman.

Why did Hynek do that? Here's my best guess. After the Robertson Panel finished its work in January 1953 and turned Project Blue Book into a public relations game, all the case investigation work was taken away from the project and given to the 4602nd Air Intelligence Service Squadron, located at Ent Air Force Base in Colorado Springs. Hynek almost immediately noticed that this separation of fieldwork investigators from his home base at Dayton was causing problems. Cases weren't being investigated with any energy and or serious intent, and the quality of the material coming to him was poor. If he were to have any chance of solving this intriguing scientific mystery, he would need access to better material. So he reached out, secretly, to the civilian investigators. He chose three outstanding early ufologists of CSI-NY: Isabel Davis, Ted Bloecher, and Lex Mebane.

Hynek's relationship with CSI-NY began in April 1955 with a letter from Davis informing him of her work on UFOs and asking him questions about several cases from 1952, to which Hynek replied with some details. This led to many exchanges that Allen later reflected upon as giving him a much better idea of what was going on than did the sightings he received from the Air Force. In June 1956, he wrote to Mebane about his strategy as a UFO researcher:

> Thanks again for your long letter. Oh, yes, I think it is still best for me to say "no" to a public appearance. I find that not only in this field but in others, I am a much better power for the good by staying in the background. Indeed, it seems to be my lot in life to occupy this position, frequently acting as a catalyst. Well, catalysts are necessary, too.

Later that summer, he met with the CSI three in New York and brought with him many materials from the Project Blue Book files. Included in these was "the two months' crop of reports" for the period July/August 1955. Perhaps Hillcrest Heights, in late June, was in there, too.

What did the report say? The case is clearly stated to have occurred on June 25, 1955, at 10:45 p.m. local time. It was thought to be important, and was reported by the four witnesses (two civilians and two military personnel) immediately. Their testimony was taken and sent out to the various offices by 5:45 a.m. the next morning.

The UFO was compared to a yellow, brilliantly shining "grapefruit" with a trail four to five times its length. It was soundless. It approached the home of the two civilians from the area of National Airport, moving erratically. The UFO appeared to waffle or oscillate in the air, stopped completely, oscillated again, and finally moved away at high speed. It traveled nearly overhead and then was lost in the sky at about 45 degrees elevation. Altogether, it was visible for seven minutes.

This case was undoubtedly interesting, as this statement in the official teletype indicates:

> Observers state that several search-lights were trained on the UFOB [Air Force acronym for a UFO] and that the lights went out when the beam approached the UFOB. The ceiling lights at Washington National Airport went out when the UFOB approached, and returned to operation when the UFOB passed over.

Let's return to Aikman's comments for a moment. The object was a weather balloon released in nearby Silver Hill, despite the fact that the observers say it came from the direction of Washington. The balloon was possibly released on June 29, or was it really on June 25? Even if the latter was true, and the balloon was released at 10:45 a.m., would it have hung around, literally, for 12 hours until it caused the UFO sighting? Or was it released at 10:45 p.m.? The balloon had a small, bright, magnesium light (translation: bright white) that apparently

4602D AISS UFOB LOG

1 REPORT NO.	2 DATE/TIME OF SIGHTING	3 RECD HQ 4602D
AISS-UFOB-189-55	26/0245Z June 1955	27 June 1955

4 LOCATION OF SIGHTING
Washington-Maryland area

5 MEANS RECD	6 ACTION	
TT Msg	Investigation Authorized	
7 INVES UNIT	8 DATE INVES ASSIGNED	9 ASSIGNING OFFICER
Flight 3-H	27 June 1955	Capt Bronstein
10 DATE IR RECD HQ	11 DATE IR APPROVED	12 DATE IR TO ATIC
13 AISOP FORM 5		
27 June 1955		

14 COMMENTS
Flight 3-H, 4602d AISS, was authorized to make and investigation of this sighting. Due to the amount of classified material involved it was necessary for Lt Berrier to travel to the scene of the sighting. Investigated with the following conclusions: A weather balloon was launched from a nearby observatory just prior to time of sighting.

15 CONCLUSIONS
Probably Balloon

AISOP FORM 7 (2A:R 55)

looked like a yellow grapefruit with a tail. The airport officials found no evidence of a brief shutdown of the ceiling lights, so that obviously didn't happen. And searchlights? Who said anything about searchlights?

Back in 1955, Allen Hynek wanted someone to follow up on the case by all means. Even the soporific Blue Book chief, Charles Hardin, evinced some interest right after the event, but said he'd wait for further reports from the 4602nd and ADC. Then they found out that the weather observatory had released a weather balloon in a roughly similar time frame. Yes, you can see them saying to themselves, that must be it.

On the project record card for the sighting, the case is boiled down to the most mundane details. The sources are listed as "civilian and military," dropping out the evaluation that the military officers—a colonel and major—were of "excellent reliability." The brief summary of the incident includes *no* mention of either the searchlights or the airport ceiling lights. Under "Conclusions," both "Was Balloon" and "Probably Balloon" are checked. Another case solved.

I don't know how Hynek reacted to things like this in those days. In me it would have brought out suicidal, or more likely, homicidal tendencies, but he seems to have been able to swallow and go on. Maybe his leaks to CSI-NY were a means of keeping himself sane.

This case is likely to have happened as described by the four witnesses, two of them senior military officers of excellent reliability. If it did, it appears that this object was able, with precision, to switch off the searchlights as their beams approached it. Now, wouldn't *that* raise some eyebrows in 1955 (or today, for that matter).

The facts aren't known, as usual, but it *might* have been causing someone high up in ADC quite a bit of concern. The next day, June 26, 1955, in Holt, Florida, several civilian and military witnesses reported a disk with blinking lights. We don't know much about the case, but the 4602nd in Colorado Springs wanted to know more. Its letter to the Chief of Intelligence at nearby Eglin AFB said this:

> This headquarters is particularly interested in the possibility of electrical vortices at the time of the sighting. It is requested that the following information be forwarded . . . :
>
> a. Type terrain at the area of sighting.
>
> b. Type soil at the area of sighting.
>
> c. Any known vortices at the approximate time of sighting.
>
> d. Are vortices known in the area of the UFOB sighting?

All of this stuff about "electrical vortices" is news to me, despite my being a science teacher. Hopefully, some reader will explain what ADC was concerned about. Regardless of that, any means by which a UFOB could cause precision electrical system failures would seem to be a matter of USAF interest.

The Holt, Florida, case was solved, by the way, when they decided that one of the witnesses was unreliable. Allen Hynek, and later CUFOS staff, were much amazed by the logic of this: one witness found unreliable, therefore the others don't count. Thus, by July 6, Eglin was writing back to ADC saying we've got an unreliable witness and you should *destroy* the previous report, and that Eglin was refusing to fill out the Project Blue Book information forms on the case.

That's not too inspiring, and neither was the Air Force inaction on the Hillcrest Heights/Washington National report. Here was an early UFO case showing pinpoint interference with an electrical device, with multiple witnesses, occurring in an atmosphere of high ADC interest in "electrical vortices," and no one was dealing with it. But it was a weather balloon, wasn't it? Yeah. Seems like I have already heard that one somewhere. ✦

ALIENS, HAIR, AND DNA—*continued from page 5*

interdimensional travel, arguably they would have already conquered the biochemical barriers that normally bar interspecies breeding.

But the pace of development in the fields of genetics and biochemistry in the last decade has extended the horizon of this debate substantially. Indeed, transgenics, the transfer of foreign genetic material into other genomes, perhaps addresses the logical interspecies barrier argument against human-alien hybrid claims. Budd Hopkins and Carol Rainey highlight transgenics, or rather an alien variation on it, as the breakthrough—"the breakdown of the barrier between species"—which may legitimize the notion that alien abduction may really be about genetic experimentation by alien beings. Their book *Sight Unseen* (Atria, 2003) also focuses on strange accounts of human or human-like entities they label as "transgenic beings" who seem to have stunted emotional ranges and carry out unusual social activities, sometimes with a sexual element to them.

I certainly would be more comfortable if dozens of samples like that from Khoury's experience existed and if their testing revealed some consistency of results. But for now we have only this anomalous sample, which has provided us with a strange DNA profile. Meanwhile, our findings will continue to be subjected to review and debate.

While the Khoury case confirms the utility of the DNA forensic approach, the real challenge ahead for researchers is to determine if these anomalies are both valid and significant. To do this, abduction researchers should cooperate in a testing program focused on DNA profiling. Testing of a significant number of legitimate samples would allow us to validate or invalidate the apparent anomalies so far documented. Such a strategy could help us determine whether the aliens are a biological reality and if indeed any of them are visiting our planet and abducting humans. ✦

PSYCHOTHERAPY AND UFOS

BY MARK RODEGHIER

It isn't often that academics write about UFOs in a professional journal. It is, in fact, exceedingly rare, and those articles are invariably negative in tone and content. Still, I try to keep tab on these publications, if only to see what our colleagues in the mainstream think about the UFO phenomenon, witnesses, and us.

A relatively recent example is an article in the *Journal of Contemporary Psychotherapy*, vol. 30, no. 3 (2000), by Dr. Carl Goldberg, a therapist in New York. The article is intriguingly entitled "The General's Abduction by Aliens from a UFO: Levels of Meaning of Alien Abduction Reports." Even in academia, having a grabber for a title is a good idea.

In the mid to late 1960s, Goldberg was a young psychology consultant at Saint Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington, D.C. He was assigned to the "White House" unit, which held patients who had attempted to reach the president or some other high government official to convey some urgent information.

James Crawford (a pseudonym), the patient who is the subject of the article, had gone to the White House to speak to the president on "vital intelligence about national security" that "was given to me by people from a distant planet, who have chosen me to represent them on their crucial mission to save the Earth." The alien beings gave Crawford a standard message about the doom that faced the earth: he was told that unless President Johnson stopped the violence in Vietnam, the aliens would destroy large cities in the United States. (Fortunately, although Johnson didn't stop the violence, the aliens never carried out their threat.) As is standard behavior among security personnel, Crawford was quickly taken to Saint Elizabeth's, where he was placed under observation and evaluation. (Crawford, who had served in the military during the Korean War, was given the appellation "General" by other patients at Saint Elizabeth's.)

Crawford claimed he had been abducted by aliens and was given this message while on their spacecraft. I wonder whether Goldberg is now using the word "abduction" to describe Crawford's experience, rather than some different phrase that Goldberg used then (probably 1967, from various clues in the article). Given that this was after the Hill abduction case became public knowledge, it *is* possible that Crawford used "abduction" to refer to his experience.

Goldberg states frankly that it was taken for granted that Crawford either "was a paranoid schizophrenic or was suffering from severe anxiety and stress which had impaired his ability to reason." One can't blame therapists in the 1960s for this attitude, and Crawford had already had psychological problems while in the Army.

Goldberg, like so many academics who dip into the UFO field, conflates contactees and abductees, and he has a limited and distorted view of the UFO evidence. But in 1967, when he was evaluating Crawford, he was no different than thousands of other psychotherapists, almost all of whom would have scrutinized Crawford with the same mental frame.

THE GENERAL'S ABDUCTION

In the course of his evaluation, Goldberg asked Crawford to describe his abduction. The beginning of the event sounds somewhat like an out-of-body experience. Crawford explained that he had fallen into a deep sleep in a hotel room in Washington. Then, "It is as if I was in two places at the same time: lying still on the bed and hovering in the room above myself." He confirmed that this had happened before, but "never the same as what happened that night."

Crawford continued, and it is worth quoting at length from this account:

> As I was floating above myself, I saw two shadowy figures that give off a silvery light—without themselves being illuminated. They seem to have entered the room by passing through the window—although I knew I closed it to turn on the air conditioner earlier in the evening. They passed below me apparently without taking note of me. They drew my prone body on the bed to them as if by magnetic pull. Then all three passed through the window without opening or breaking it. I found myself following them without effort or conscious intent through the window into the open night sky.
>
> As I approached them I saw a thin, almost invisible

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> rope or line extending toward them. I intuitively knew that the extension was from a flying craft above them. In an instant I found myself in the craft, observing my prone self brought to an upright, still position—as if I was in a trance.

Crawford went on to discuss a telepathic exchange with "the leader," a tall slender being, who told him about his special mission (regrettably, Goldberg does not report on the appearance of the aliens, according to Crawford). He was to be given the power of "remote vision," which would allow him to see things that aren't visible to others. The aliens were performing medical procedures on other humans that were sometimes painful, and Crawford had to undergo a procedure as well to gain the special ability.

Whether we believe Crawford was abducted or not, there are several intriguing elements to his story. His physical body and the beings passed through the closed window in his room. This element of abduction accounts was almost nonexistent in 1967 and didn't surface publicly until many years later when Budd Hopkins wrote about his investigations. Crawford suffered "doorway amnesia," as he had no memory of entering the UFO. This, too, is a characteristic common in abduction accounts but not something commonly known or reported in 1967. Make of these facts what you will.

Goldberg's diagnosis

Goldberg, without putting too fine a point on it, thought that Crawford was nuts. He decided to recommend treatment that would help the patient see "the function his belief serves in how he feels about himself and about his relationship to other people." A year later, while still in treatment, and under somewhat peculiar circumstances, Crawford left the hospital without permission and never returned. Thus, Goldberg is unable to tell us how well Crawford responded to treatment, although since he was still there a year later, progress, if any, must have been slow.

Goldberg goes on to ruminate about how these abduction experiences supply meaning to the abductees. And indeed, if the experiences are not actual events, it is wise to ponder how their content relates to the individual human psyche. As Goldberg notes about results from the poll done by Roper in the 1990s at the behest of Robert Bigelow, a large number of people in the U.S. have had similar experiences they don't understand.

I won't recount his various attempts to examine the historical, moral, metaphoric, and psychological meaning of the abduction experience and the benefit they thereby bring to the abductee. But I will mention that, as we would expect from a psychotherapist, Goldberg pays special attention to how abductees use coping strategies for life problems. As he read accounts from Mack's first book *Abductions* (New York: Scribners, 1994), Goldberg thinks he discerns a pattern: "[E]very one of his reported contactees [sic] had undergone a personal crisis or a loss of meaning in his or her life prior to the reported abduction." Mack, of course, indicates that these conflicts may have been the result of a series of lifelong abductions, but Goldberg believes the reverse is more likely. As he writes, "People who experienced troubled lives and/or a lack of purpose for their existence desperately seek a way to explain their troubles and give meaning to their lives." Thus, he says of the General that his UFO experience was a "desperate effort" to discover himself.

Yes, I suppose that is exactly what a psychotherapist would think about abductees writ large, and the General in particular. And maybe Crawford did have a severe mental disorder for more mundane causes (he had a troubled family life as a young man). If abductions begin when one is young, though, long before most people have experienced conflict, trouble, and a feeling of despair, then Goldberg's diagnosis doesn't apply. And given that, like so much research by psychotherapists, this was a study of *one* patient, his ideas really don't apply very directly to anyone except Crawford. As always in science (a word I use loosely regarding psychotherapy), generalizing from an *n* of 1 is risky business.

It's too bad that Goldberg didn't contact some serious UFO investigators and engage in a dialogue about the General and abductees. He almost certainly wouldn't have changed his mind about the meaning and causes of abduction reports, but he would have been better informed and written a more interesting paper. Certainly, there must be other psychotherapists who have encountered patients with abduction experiences, although almost no accounts of this exist in the literature. If these therapists do some background research *before* working with such patients, we can hope that their treatment will be better informed, whether they are willing to consider abductions as physical events or not. ✦

SCOTLAND'S UFO HOT SPOT

West Kilbride, Scotland, topped the list for UFO sightings in the U.K. last year. Ministry of Defence files, released under Britain's Freedom of Information Act, showed there were 12 reports of "yellow spheres" flying alone or in groups. Eight of the sightings occurred in April and May of 2004. All the reports were referred to the air directorate of the RAF for possible investigation.

At 11 p.m. on November 26, witnesses reported at least 25 spheres, flying in groups of five, heading north over the village.

The Clyde coast town displaces Bonnybridge, near Falkirk, as Scotland's UFO capital. And it beats second-placed Wellingborough in Northamptonshire, England, where four reports of UFOs were logged in 2004.

However, many West Kilbride residents today laughed off suggestions the village was a "hot spot" for flying saucers. One resident said: "I have lived here since birth and I've never seen or even heard of any sightings."
—*Glasgow Evening Times, March 8, 2005.*

A CASE OF RADAR DETECTION OF UFOs IN FRANCE

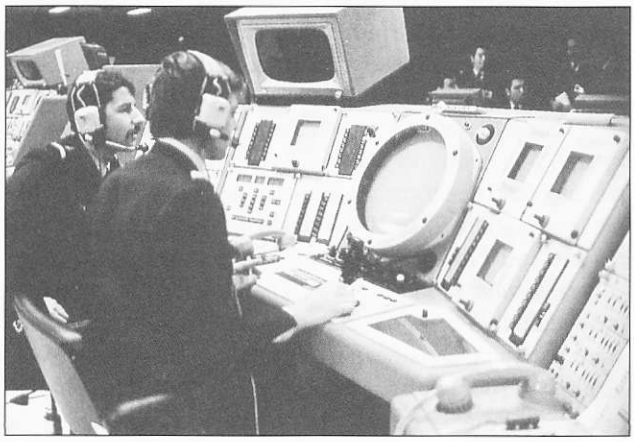
BY CLAUDE POHER

I discuss in this brief article a case where military radar detected several UFOs in France. The event occurred before I created GEPAN, but I personally investigated the case and spoke to the witnesses.

The incident took place on December 14, 1976, at Contrexéville (Air Force Base #292), which is about 60 kilometers south of the town of Nancy, in northeastern France. The radar at the base picked up three unknowns during the early morning, around 2:00 a.m., then 3:00 a.m., and finally 3:30 a.m. (all local time).

The three detections of unknowns were at night, when civilian aircraft traffic is particularly low and military aircraft traffic essentially nonexistent. The air traffic controllers know the flight plans well and are familiar with the trajectories of all kinds of aircraft on their radarscopes.

Seven controllers were witnesses. While I know the names of the main controller (whom I interviewed in person) and the station chief (who confirmed the facts by telephone with me), I have kept their names confidential. Evidently, information about the case was classified.



SIRPA-COMETA

Fig. 1. Example of French military radar air traffic controllers in action in 1976. The panoramic radarscope is the round one in front of the main controller; it shows in real time aircraft trajectories in the very large zone covered by the radar (about 300 km radius).

Claude Poher is an astrophysicist whose 33-year career with the French space agency included creating GEPAN, an office responsible for investigating UFO reports. His website is at www.premiumwanadoo.com/universons/html_0/index0_gb.html.

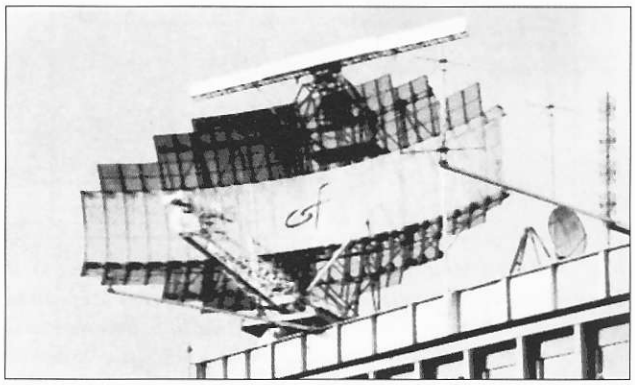


Fig. 2. Example of a panoramic radar antenna. The antenna rotates around a vertical axis, so as to sweep all directions of the horizon in 10 seconds. In the foreground are the radiating horn and the microwave guide at the parabolic antenna focus.

To understand the facts, we must know something about the type of radar used in Contrexéville at that time. This panoramic radar had a parabolic rotating antenna, turning around a vertical axis, with a complete 360° turn in 10 seconds.

Let us simplify as much as possible. The parabolic antenna radiates a narrow but powerful beam of microwaves, narrower in azimuth than in elevation. The waves propagate and return towards the antenna when they encounter a reflecting surface, such as an aircraft metallic skin. The radar emits only during a very brief instant, then the antenna is connected to the receiver. The radar emission and reception are pulsed regularly.

The repetition rate of the emitted pulses, as well as the antenna rotation speed are chosen such that each target is illuminated several times in the microwave beam before it is out of that beam. Then the same target can only be detected again during the next antenna turn, 10 seconds later. For this reason, the radar scope and associated electronics are "remnant," as they keep the trace of the diverse echoes for at least 10 to 20 antenna turns (100 to 200 seconds) in order to get a trajectory of the targets. The oldest dots fade slowly in time, in order to show the orientation of the target movement on the screen.

Each radar echo paints a luminous "dot" on the screen

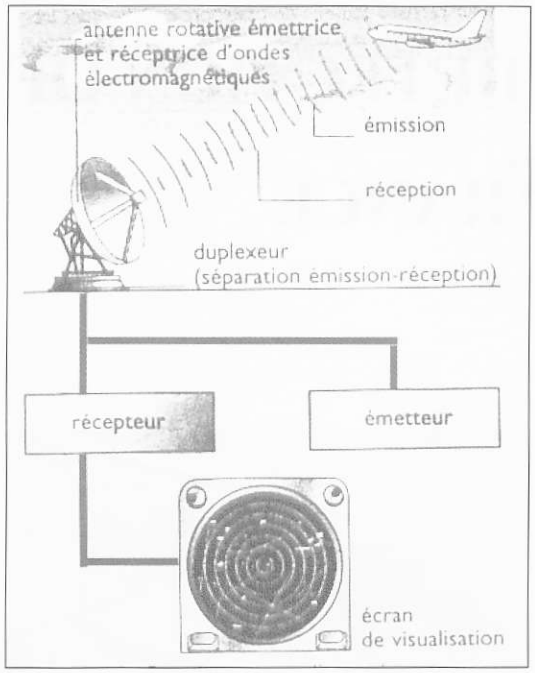


Fig. 3. Ultra simplified radar principle. The antenna is connected alternatively to the transmitter and to the receiver during its rotation. The radial sweep of the radarscope is synchronous with the emitting pulses and the antenna rotation. The radar echoes appear on the scope as dots that are moving like the reflecting targets in the sky.

(an elongated large dot). The screen sweep is radial and begins at the screen center when the transmitter radiates the microwaves. The direction of the screen sweep being the antenna orientation, each returned echo paints a dot at a distance from the screen center that is proportional to the distance of the radar target. Thus the screen has concentric circles giving the direct target distance to the operator.

Aircraft trajectories appear on the radarscopes as lines made of separated dots, one dot per antenna turn or one dot every 10 seconds. The target speed can be calculated both manually and electronically. For example, a commercial jet aircraft in high-altitude flight has a speed of about 900 km/hr, so it changes its position by 2.5 km (1.3 nautical miles) in 10 seconds of an antenna turn. Its trajectory appears, on the Contrexéville radarscope, as a line made of dots separated by 1.3 nm.

Detection #1 around 2:00 a.m. The first detection involved observation of a rapid, linear trajectory, at 180° azimuth, over the town of Lyon, which is about 300 km south-southwest of the radar position. On the scopes, the successive dots are 10 to 15 nautical miles (nm) distant, which is quite anomalous. To be detected at such a distance, the radar target must be at a high altitude, because of the curvature of the earth. Calculations indicate an altitude over 7,000 meters. But the radar did not show the target altitude because the target had no radar transponder, and because the briefness of the detection did not allow the "elevation lock" of the radar on the target.

Now that we have reviewed the radar's operation, we can understand very well the astonishment of the air traffic controllers, observing suddenly this anomalous trajectory with dots separated by 10 to 15 nm instead of 1–1.5 nm! Effectively the distance between the dots is 10 times greater than was common. No aircraft, in 1976, was able to paint a trajectory with dots separated by so much distance on the Contrexéville radar, and the operators were very conscious of the fact

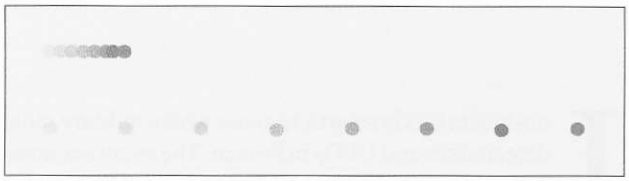


Fig. 4. Simulation, full scale, of two distinct trajectories on a radarscope of 60-cm diameter for a 300-km range. The detection of the two targets starts simultaneously on the left side of their painted trajectory, and moves to the right (heading = 90°). On the top: a commercial jet with a speed of 900 km/h. Below, the December 14, 1976, UFO with dots separated by 10–15 nm. The two trajectories are simulated for the same duration of 80 seconds. The dots contrast fades away with time, showing the direction of movement to the operator, just like on a real radarscope, except that this is a negative, i.e., the dots are dark.

Detection #2 around 3:00 a.m. The next event, about an hour later, involved the observation of several simultaneous trajectories, rapid and linear, over 190 km, following a heading of 120° to 160° from the Pointe de Givet (40 km north of Charleville-Mézières) towards Nancy where they disappeared suddenly. Again, the dots are 10–15 nm distant from each other on the scope, implying the same speed. The quality of return is better than during detection #1 because Nancy is only 60 km away from the Contrexéville radar.

The UFO trajectories were so fast that the radar operators had difficulty in accurately determining the targets' headings and distances. At such a speed, the distance of 190 km is covered in 70 to 100 seconds maximum, corresponding to 7 to 10 fading dots on the radar screen.

Detection #3 at 3:30 a.m. The last event involved the observation of several simultaneous trajectories again, which were also rapid and linear, between Reims and Nancy, on a heading of 100°, with 6 to 7 dots per trajectory. This time the operators are able to get a brief lock in elevation by the radar, giving the targets altitude as 35,000 feet (10,500 meters). The dots are again 10–15 nm distant, so the targets are moving at the same speed as in the other detections.

Speed of the Targets

During the three radar detections, the distance between the successive painted dots was 10 to 15 nautical miles. Air traffic controllers of Contrexéville were very certain of this:

(continued on page 27)

AN ABDUCTEE'S LIFE

BY TOM RYMER

I'm an abductee. This short essay is a description of some, certainly not all, of my experiences and general thoughts on the subject. My purpose here is simply to add my voice to the growing compendium commonly known today as alien encounters. I can't address every skeptical argument. It would be a uniquely bizarre essay if I tried. Nor is it my intention to say that skeptics are bad, narrow-minded folk. I can say without hesitation that abductees themselves tend to be more skeptical of their own experience than any researcher or writer could ever be.

I am not seeking personal attention from what I have to say. Who in his or her right mind would crave that sort of attention? For years I kept my opinion about what happened to me to myself, not even daring to share my feelings with the person I trust most, my wonderful and patient wife. Nor do I ask that the reader believe me. I can't ask for that. If the shoe was on the other foot, I don't think I could be open-minded enough to believe that such a thing was possible. What happened to me just happened, and these are my experiences and my thoughts and feelings about them. If there was anything I would ask the reader to believe, however, it is that I don't want this experience in my life. It has no place or purpose. What I've learned from this strange intervention into my life, I've learned in spite—not because—of it.

Finally, if what I report here is ultimately proven true, then what I and people like me are grappling with are the biggest mysteries mankind has ever faced. Forgive me if what I say and the way I say it is enormously understated and clumsy.

A savvy online friend of mine once likened abduction to a death in the family. Medical technology has reached a point where there is now time to say goodbye to a loved one, and after saying goodbye to my mother a few years ago, I can only wonder whether that extended time is a blessing or a curse. I knew when I left the hospital room for the last time that her death was something I'd never actually get over: It was instead an unwanted event with which I'd have to cope. Abduction is a similar experience, except that the death I experienced was my own. I was forced to say farewell to my old life and work through the grieving process while living a strange, new one. I didn't choose to live this new and sometimes horrific life, but as with the death of my mother, life simply served it up. I had no choice. And as with the death of my mother, I'll be coping with abduction for the rest of my life.

Tom Rymer (pseudonym) is an associate professor at a small private university.

CHILDHOOD

I grew up in the Midwest, my father a family lawyer, my mother a medical technologist. We lived in a 1,200-square-foot home in a lower-middle-class neighborhood. I have one brother, now an attorney and a judge in my hometown, and a sister, a speech pathologist. My parents considered themselves liberal Democrats, and my mom marched on Washington twice—once in support of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, once against the Vietnam War. I was raised with lots of love but also with that 1950s pragmatism all in my generation remember well. My father's advice when I told him I didn't want to go to college was, "This is America. You're free to be an idiot if you want to."

I am now 49 years old and a teacher.

EARLY EXPERIENCE

I went to bed one night as usual. Nothing out of the ordinary happened during the day. I suddenly became aware that I was very cold and wet. It had been raining when I'd gone to bed, and I felt my pajama legs saturated and glued to my ankles. I also realized I was unable to move. My back was against something cold and hard. I tried to look around me, but was unable to move my head. I believe my eyes were able to rotate, but I can't be certain of that. I was standing in a small, round shaft of some sort. The walls were dark and rough, and seemed earthen to me, as though I was underground in a tunnel of some sort. Wherever I was, it was dimly lit. I couldn't see the source of the light, but it was bright enough in the murk to be able to see my immediate surroundings. There was a smoky, misty substance in the air, and most of my peripheral vision was shrouded by the mist.

At the same moment I began to notice my surroundings, I became aware of three little figures waddling towards me —one figure in front, and two trailing figures, one on each

side. The figures were difficult to make out at first, and I was lost in concentration, not yet fearful. I suddenly heard a voice in my head saying something like, "Everything will be okay. You'll be all right."

The three figures were dressed in robes with hoods. The edges of the hoods were rather long, like cowls, hanging low in front, and masking much of the face. The little figure in front came right up close to me, and that's when I became terrified. It was, in every sense of the word in my eight-year-old experience, a monster. I first noticed the eyes. They were large and round—not the almond-shaped eyes you see depicted on many book covers these days. They were shiny, wet-looking, and black. The face itself was covered with three-inch dark-brown hair. I remember it matting away from the eyes. I remember some sort of mouth and nose, but it was difficult for me to look away from the eyes, and the little creature came close to me, no more than an inch or two away. We were eye to eye—nose to unnoticed nose. I have no memory of seeing feet beneath the robes. I also remember seeing the creature closest to me holding a short, silver stick, about six to eight inches long. I have no personal recollection concerning its function or use.

Part of my problem in describing the little monsters was this close proximity of the first creature. The other was my paralysis. It seemed impossible for me to look away, and the smoky substance in the air limited my peripheral vision. I screamed. I have no idea if sound came out of my mouth. My suspicions were that it didn't. I shrieked and kept on shrieking. A voice inside my head—a very difficult thing to describe—told me once again, "Everything would be all right."

I sensed activity beyond the little monster. There was movement. Each movement somehow seemed purposeful. I kept on silently screaming. At some point during what I supposed was a nightmare, I fully expected to wake up once again, this time warm in my bed. Yet this horrific experience continued. I remembered thinking that this was wrong. I was conscious of social roles at eight—no adult or authority figure would continue this if it terrified a child to this extent. When would this stop? When would it become understandable? It was all wrong. I suddenly came to the realization that this was real—that hairy little monsters were confronting me. This was not a dream. This was a horrible reality. My immediate reaction was to try to give them whatever they wanted just to be left alone. "Why me?" I screamed. "What do you want from me?" The response was, "You are chosen," or, "You are the chosen one."

All the while this madness went on, a movement continued just far enough out of my peripheral vision so that while I could tell it was occurring, I could not tell exactly what that purposeful movement was. It seemed planned to me, and even at eight I had the sense that this was a staged confrontation. Planned activities were being carried out.

I have no idea how long this experience lasted in real time, but at this point, my memory lapses into fragments or snippets of occurrences. I was lifted up and physically carried at one point. The material of the robes rubbed up against my face and eyes. I felt it and saw it clearly. In another snippet I saw a taller being standing near the other three. I sensed anger, as though the taller being was giving orders to the three and was angry that some were not being carried out correctly. I also had an overwhelming fear that some impending physical *something* was about to occur.

The next thing I knew, I awoke in my bed. My pajama legs were still damp, and there were grass and leaves in my bed. I felt exhausted. I quickly ran downstairs to tell my mother what had happened. She said, "You were dreaming, and drink your milk. And I keep telling you to empty the cuffs on your jeans before you play in the house or jump around on your bed." I don't know if I caught a hint of fear in her voice, but I knew she was wrong. It wasn't a dream like any I'd ever had. It was real—but how could it be real? Still, I put the experience out of my mind for over 30 years. I remember it as clearly today as I did that morning at the breakfast table.

On the road

By the summer of 1972 a friend and I had been saving money for a road trip for over a year. I graduated from high school that year, and with no draft or plans for the coming fall, we were free to plan a trip. We loosely charted a direction toward the northwest on an atlas and drove out of Wisconsin, into Minnesota, and up along the international border of Canada, dipping back down on occasion to catch the best of the national parks along the way. We spent our first evening in a rest stop, and then camped for a few days thereafter.

We'd just left Livingston, Montana, and were having fun running up and down the two-lane roads. I believe we were approaching foothills. It was just about dusk, the time of day when the light changes and the greens and browns of forested areas take on new hues. We were driving on a two-lane road, lined on both sides by trees. My friend was driving. I had the passenger side window down and my feet propped up on the dashboard.

Suddenly, out from behind the tree line on the right side of the road, a huge fireball the size of my fist on my outstretched hand rose up in full view of the open, passenger-side window. We both saw it emerge and both followed its entire trajectory before us. We looked at each other and said something in unison like, "What the hell is that?"

It made a perfect arc up and over the road, sort of lolled there, and then in the same arc, dipped behind the tree line on the left. We expected a crash but heard none—in fact, we heard no sound at all during the entire event. From the size and shape we both thought that the thing should have sounded like a freight train. The colors were striking. The top half of the orb was enveloped in orange flame and the bottom in green. It intermittently shot out sparks like a pitted piece of metal on a grinding wheel. It sputtered short showers of green and orange sparks, and

there was very little tail if any at all.

My friend slammed his feet on the brakes and we careened onto the slim shoulder. After debating whether to leave the car where it had come to a stop, beside the narrow shoulder on a winding mountain road, and go look for the crash site, we decided that with the approaching darkness it probably wasn't a good idea. In retrospect I have no idea why we didn't take it more seriously and look for it, marking the area before finding a place to camp, and then coming back the next day to search, but we didn't. We pulled out on the road, my buddy still driving, and traveled on.

I do remember that I abruptly fell asleep. I awoke hours later and asked what was going on. My friend strangely replied, "I don't know."

"What do you mean you don't know?" I asked. "It's obvious you've been driving."

"I guess so."

"What do you mean you guess so?"

"I really don't know," he said. "I guess I've been driving."

I decided to drop it, chalking up the weird feeling and an odd conversation to road weariness. We put the conversation and the entire event out of our minds for nearly 25 years.

Discovery

This is without exception the most difficult thing I've ever written. There is simply no sane way to describe a wildly bizarre phenomenon. While I have firmly come to believe in the reality of abduction, putting it into words is terribly hard, and for the literally hundreds of accounts I've read and shared online since my initial discovery, I've never seen anyone else do a particularly good job of it either. All the tales, all the rationale, all the accounts of not believing and then coming to believe—they're all lacking to varying degree. Even as I write this, I realize most people will see it as my personal roadmap into madness. Those who've had the experience, however, will smile knowingly.

About seven years ago I was new to the web. Lots of people were. The computer was a huge toy, the Internet a constant video game—simply fun to see color pictures and read email streaming into my home from a world away. I'd moved from the Midwest to the South, took a teaching job on a lark, found I enjoyed it, and had pursued the profession. I'd married and within a year my wife was pregnant. I was, of course, excited about the prospects of this, the birth of my only child. I read everything I could get my hands on and encouraged my wife to take natural-birth courses. We had the baby when I turned 40. The baby was often sick with a seemingly endless string of ear infections, and I slept little for her first two years.

I thank the immediacy of my child's needs for pulling me back into reality and keeping my life on course. Without her and my extreme good luck in contacting the people I did, I suspect I'd have been in even worse emotional shape than I was. But it was the Internet that became the medium for my discovery, and ironically, an important part of my solace as well.

One evening I surfed to the UFO sites. I remembered my sighting on the mountain road at 18 and thought I'd try to find out what it was. I read countless stories of similar fireballs, meteors, and bolides. I read of a rare meteor that skipped in and out of Earth's atmosphere during the summer of 1972, and many people in three mountain states sighted it. But I never came upon any picture that accurately reflected what my friend and I had seen on the road.

Deeper into the unknown

I began reading an abduction site. I have no idea why. I never connected my experience with alien abduction and didn't at that time either. I had no reason to make any connection. I'd seen only the lurid images in grocery-store tabloids, considered them a joke, or worse, the sad stories of lonely, sick, destitute people in need of social and psychological attention. I remember the 1975 Betty and Barney Hill TV special that my parents wouldn't let us watch, but I had no idea it concerned abduction.

One site in particular drew my attention. The author asked the reader to submit his or her own abduction tale. I remembered the odd dream of my childhood. I was curious enough to see what the author would say about my story. I treated it and thought of it exactly as I'd treat a fortuneteller at a carnival, in other words as entertainment. I withheld the best remembered and most explicit details of my "dream" and wrote a brief outline of what happened to me. (Many computer crashes later, I wonder what became of that initial letter.) To my surprise, I got an almost immediate response. The webmaster directed me toward a few pieces of UFO literature of the period; I believe I read Raymond E. Fowler's first account of the Betty Andreasson DeLuca abduction.

The webmaster remained communicative and available online. I asked questions about the experiences of others as I finished a book or an article. But this never became personal until I once again brought up my own experience. In contrast to what skeptics say about being led by abduction researchers and support groups, I never felt as though the webmaster was taking me in any particular direction. I remember that on many occasions he did his best to tell me that any decision I made on the reality of the abduction experience was entirely my own.

As I continued to read, my list of questions grew, and so did my feelings of unease at the similarities of the abduction narratives in the literature. I was always careful not to divulge to the webmaster what I considered to be confirmatory details of the event, and the webmaster was also careful not to tip his hand. It's important to note that up until this point I hadn't read any abduction accounts. Details like paralysis, telepathic communication, the metal object, close proximity of the beings, the hooded robes, and the physical description and behavior of the beings themselves were all

unknown to me outside my own experience. As I said earlier, there is no way I could ever objectively prove this point—I simply know it to be true. I was reading some shockingly similar detail in the accounts of others, but they made no impact on me. I remained fairly detached from any emotional connection with the reality of abduction. That was to change.

I ultimately grew bored reading others' accounts, and I finally began asking challenging questions about my own experience. I suppose my intent was to stop devoting time to this ridiculous subject and begin spending more time with my work and family. I threw out a challenge to the webmaster: "If abduction stories are so similar, tell me a detail I experienced that I haven't told you about."

In a hesitant response he divulged two details. He told me that the material of the fabric was a "brown, burlappy type [of] material" and that he suspected one of the little beings held a metallic wand or stick. I was floored. I had been reading accounts similar to mine for months, but for whatever reason, none struck me personally until these two details were mentioned. I went cold. I panicked. I was suddenly confronted with a new and terrifying reality.

As I have mentioned, my then two-year-old began suffering from constant ear infections. I was up with her nearly every night. The antibiotic would wear off, the incubation period for the new infection would mature, and then we'd be up all night together with her shrieking in agony on my lap. I credit my little girl with forcing me to hold my emotional life together during this period. Nothing drags one back to the here and now like projectile vomiting and hour upon hour of high-pitched screaming. I shut off the computer and didn't turn it back on again for two weeks. At that point, memories of events covering my entire life of abduction were coming back to me. Countless details and snippets of experiences flooded my waking moments. I was particularly shocked by a memory of what I would later read about as a "smart baby" encounter described in the pages of a David Jacobs book. I returned to the web, joined email lists, and read literally hundreds of stories like mine.

Over time, I was able to settle down a bit. I now concentrate less on the phenomenon and abduction research and more on watching my little girl grow. Still, my life will never be the same. As the webmaster once said, "Welcome to the club to which nobody wants to belong." I have learned to deal with this aspect of my life, I suppose; yet there are some moments of sheer terror from which I'll never be able to insulate myself. Those moments occur when I think about my daughter's potential involvement.

One morning I walked into my daughter's room to retrieve something. I found her lying on her back, flat on the floor. She'd arranged five or six of her dolls in the same way. They were all side by side, staring up at the ceiling.

"What are you doing?" I asked.

"I'm not really here, Daddy."

"Oh, yeah? Well, where are you?"

"Okay, I'm here now, but I wasn't last night."

"Where were you?"

"The little monsters took me up on their airplane. And the little monster doctor put a stick on my tummy—right here."

I didn't look. I told her I had to go to the bathroom. I locked the door and stayed there until I could get the horrified look off my face. Later that evening I found a triangular-shaped mark (what looked like a puncture wound) on her as she bathed. That one-sided conversation has haunted me since. It is extremely difficult to even write about. To this date, my daughter and I have never had a conversation about aliens or abduction. I don't plan on doing so. I suppose that at some distant point in time, say, after she's 40 and I've also given her permission to go on her first date, I may.

A friend of mine read part of this account and asked me why I came to believe in abduction. He also stated that abduction suffers the lethal combination of the wildly bizarre and utterly unprovable. I agree, to some extent. So why do I believe I'm an abductee? I suppose the quick answer to my friend's initial question is that abduction provides the most viable, best-fit answer to all the strange, inexplicable occurrences, memories, and experiences I've had throughout my life. Perhaps the best way to explain myself is to list the commonly cited prosaic explanations that don't apply to me.

My hairy-dwarf experience occurred long before I'd seen any similar representation of these things in film or in books. But for a very few books and movies that typified my generation's interests, I was never a science-fiction fan. I read Arthur C. Clarke's *Childhood's End* in high school. In my mind William Shatner currently plays a much more interesting television character as the despicable attorney Denny Crane than he ever did as Captain Kirk. I didn't directly or indirectly, intentionally or unintentionally, borrow my experience from books, stories, or movies available to me when I was a child. I would sincerely prefer it if that were to be the case. My life revolved around baseball, TV cowboys, and endless games of kick-the-can.

What I am not

I have never undergone hypnosis. My memories are consciously recalled. I don't believe fantasy proneness is an issue. Although I've never been tested for fantasy proneness per se, my MMPI places me well within a normal range. I have never been "led" by an investigator—therefore, no "inaccurate retrieval cues." I have never been the victim of aggressive therapy for a traumatic event, or a member of a "support group" for abduction. I have never suffered from severe nightmares or night terror as a child either prior to or after my Hairy Being confrontation. I have never been sexually molested by my father, mother, friend, foe, or family member.

I am not a hoaxer. I have no financial or emotional stake

(continued on page 26)

CONVERSATIONS WITH MARTIANS

BY JEROME CLARK

Do intelligent beings live on Mars? Can their existence be proved by observation from earth?

Though today it is all but impossible to find a scientist who believes Mars is inhabited, these questions obsessed astronomers in the late 19th century and the first decades of the 20th. The controversy was sparked in 1877 with an assertion made by the great Italian astronomer Giovanni Schiaparelli (1835–1910), who reported seeing *canali* on the Martian surface while the planet was in opposition (in other words, aligned with the earth and thus opposite the sun). *Canali* can be translated as either "channels" or "canals." Both imply life of some sort, the latter technology of a sophisticated kind.

The canal wars were waged in various forums, popular and professional, and took on particular heat when a wealthy and brash American, Percival Lowell (1855–1916), established an observatory on the high mesa near Flagstaff, Arizona, in 1894. Within a year Lowell had published a book championing the idea that the canals were real; they existed so that a dying race of Martians could siphon water from the Martian polar caps and carry it to life-sustaining oases through an extensive irrigation system. By the time Lowell died, other scientists—notably the Turkish-born French astronomer Eugène M. Antoniadi (1870–1944)—had done much to discredit such theories, which owed their inspiration to little more than optical illusion. Still, Lowell-derived speculations lived on into the 1950s, even in the writings of a few astronomers.

The canal controversy has been extensively documented in numerous books, articles, and papers then and since. What is less known, however, is a related issue—the possibility of communication with the red planet—which played out alongside the more mainstream scientific debate about distant Martians and their canals. Some hoped it would be possible to communicate with red-planet residents, while others wondered if communication weren't already being attempted from the other direction.

For example, in 1892 and again in 1901, according to *Metropolitan Magazine* in 1907, "the receivers of the wireless telegraph stations . . . registered, and for a long period at a time, the signal three dots . . . persistently repeated." The dots allegedly had no demonstrable earthly origin, it was asserted, but the "three dots singularly recall three points of light which were observed on the planet Mars in 1901." The great electrical scientist and inventor Nikola Tesla (1856–1943) wrote cryptically in the February 9, 1901, issue of *Collier's*:

> In some experiments I have been conducting for some time I have been noticing disturbances that have had a peculiar effect on my instruments. What these disturbances are caused by I am unable to say at present, but I am firmly convinced that they are the results of an attempt by some human beings, not of our world, to speak to us by signals.
>
> I am certain of some points. . . . I am convinced that these [disturbances] are not caused by something terrestrial. I know, too, that they are not caused by the sun or moon, and hence I am forced to the belief that they come from some other planet. . . .
>
> I have observed electrical actions which have appeared inexplicable. . . . How long these attempts have been going on is, of course, problematic. It is possible they have only just begun. It is possible, also, that they have been going on for centuries. . . . [F]rom their nature, I am completely given over to the conviction that they are the first attempts of some other planet to open up communication with us.

Tesla's strange remarks did not go over well with scientists, who rightly protested that he had provided no evidence to support his sweeping assertions. But theories of Martian communication continued. French astronomer and science populizer Camille Flammarion (1842–1925) thought, as he pronounced in 1907, "The Martians tried to communicate with us hundreds of thousands of years ago" and "may have tried again a few thousand years ago, and never having obtained a response, they concluded that the earth was uninhabited or that its denizens did not trouble themselves about the study of the universe or the search after eternal truths."

The 1909 opposition, however, brought into view what some hopeful astronomers took to be lights signaling from

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the Martian surface. In October 1913, from a Geneva observatory, Fritjof Le Coultre—described as an "undistinguished astronomer" in one press account—reported 17 consecutive nights' worth of bluish-white flashes, "like the light of powerful electric arc lamps." He thought they were signals to earth, and so did Lowell Observatory astronomers, who were sure they had seen the same thing the same night. A colleague at the Paris Observatory, on the other hand, was inclined to credit "auto-suggestion" as the explanation.

In 1919, the celebrated electrical genius Guglielmo Marconi (1874–1937) claimed, though without providing details, that he had detected signals from Mars. The signals, however, were subsequently traced to an experiment conducted by chemist Irving Langmuir (1881–1957) from the General Electric Laboratories in Schenectady, New York. (Apparently embittered by the experience, in 1924 Marconi denied that the incident had ever happened, dismissing Martian signals as a "fantastic absurdity.") An attempt to hear otherworldly radio messages at a wireless receiving station near Omaha over a week in April 1920 produced "nothing that could by any stretch of the imagination be construed as a message from Mars," said the experimenter, electrical scientist Frederick E. Millener.

C. Francis Jenkins

On the night of August 22, 1924, when Mars passed within 34.5 million miles of earth, a "radio photo message continuous transmission machine," recently invented by C. Francis Jenkins (1867–1934) of Washington, D.C., recorded film of a "fairly regular arrangement of dots and dashes along one side" and on the other "at almost evenly spaced intervals . . . curiously jumped groups each taking the form of a crudely drawn human face," in the words of one account. A retired astronomer, David P. Todd (1855–1939), who participated in the experiment with Jenkins, told a reporter, "It may not be a message from Mars, but if it isn't from Mars, where is it from?" Army specialists tried to detect a code but failed to do so. Astronomer Frederick E. Fowle (1869–1940) of the Smithsonian Institution thought they were no more than "disturbances introduced by solar or terrestrial causes not yet understood." At an observatory in Dulwich, England, Prof. Norman Edwards picked up "long, harsh dots at regular intervals in groups of four, five and three at a wavelength of 30,000 meters," but dismissed suggestions that they were intelligent messages from Mars. Something comparable was recorded at radio station WOR in Newark, New Jersey.

David P. Todd

By the next opposition, in 1926, disillusionment with the concept of communication with Mars had set in, and most who had once been interested were abandoning the quest. A spokesman for the Royal Astronomical Society told United Press, "Although a few cranks . . . still appear greatly excited over the hope of the establishment of communication with Mars, we are no longer interested in the subject. It is possible that life in some form does exist on Mars, but whether this life could comprehend any kind of communication from other parts of the universe is very doubtful."

Still, later that year a Columbia professor suggested—perhaps tongue in cheek, perhaps not—that radio interference, then a significant problem for listeners to the new medium, happened because Martians trying to signal earth messed up the signals.

In January 1929, a French astronomer would make a curious claim that in some ways anticipated the speculation that would emerge, less than two decades later, that interplanetary spacecraft were visiting earth from Mars. In a statement to the press, Henri Pensa remarked that on each of three successive nights the previous winter, and again the past November, a silvery object trailing fire had been observed in the same position of the sky and moving in the identical direction in the Rodez Mountains in southern France. Pensa deemed the behavior of these phenomena to be uncharacteristic of meteors, but arguably characteristic of the intelligent behavior of Martians signaling this planet via what he termed "interplanetary bombardment." He said the objects had fallen from the sky, and he and colleagues had collected "fragments," their nature unspecified. Unfortunately, Pensa would be heard from no more, but somewhat comparable assertions would be made, also in France, seven years later.

Scientists were not the only ones reporting interplanetary communications. On January 10, 1935, Charles Spayde, the operator of a telephone and telegraph station just west of Lima, Ohio, informed the *Lima News* that he had been "receiving a series of strange, unintelligible signals. They differ from ordinary telegraphic, high frequency signals . . . because of the odd flat or dull tone. . . . The peculiar new signals . . . are exceptionally broad in wavelength and come in all over the dial. I have attempted to work out a translation code, but so far have been unable to decipher it. But I am convinced the signals are not static or mechanical disturbances. It is my opinion that they do not originate on this planet."

From an observatory in the lower Alps, French astronomer Robert Damion gave this statement in early spring 1936:

> This winter during several nights which were pitch dark for the absence of the moon and stars I noticed a certain portion of the sky in the vicinity of Mars suddenly lit up by a strange light of a deep bluish tint. That light while it lasted, some 40 seconds each time, was so strong that one could easily read a newspaper by it. Similar phenomena have occurred before in France, and been

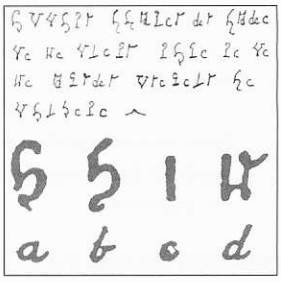
> remarked upon by my fellow astronomers. The last time was some eight years ago in the vicinity of Lyon.
>
> I am convinced that Mars is trying to signal our planet by some means unknown to us. If they really are signals, we should be quite unable to answer them, not having yet been able to design searchlights powerful enough to throw a beam even a quarter of the way to our nearest planet neighbor.

That same month Damion spoke of seeing bluish lights on the Martian surface. On May 30, 1937, "a series of bright flashes was seen extending across the south polar cap about 1″ north of the southern rim of the disk. They were irregularly intermittent and were estimated to be about one magnitude brighter than the rest of the cap," Latimer J. Wilson, one of the observers, wrote in *Popular Astronomy* not long afterwards. He noted, "The flashes extended almost midway between the northern edge of the cap and the southern rim of the disk. A line of tiny white dots seemed to extend across the cap, some of the spots coalescing to swell into a brilliant white spot which quickly became yellow, then red-yellow, the phenomenon passing from left to right across the polar cap." He offered no theories about their nature and cause. By this time theories about Martians, much less ones sending messages earthward, were less and less a component of respectable discourse.

Psychic Martians

In the 19th and 20th centuries, as astronomers and biologists debated the existence of Martians, a number of individuals spoke of personal encounters or psychic communications with people from the red planet. Most of these claims from the former century were associated with the Spiritualist craze that swept the world in those years, and the contacts were effected through mediumship or astral (out-of-body) travel.

The most famous such case concerned an amateur medium in Geneva, Catherine Elise Müller (1861–1929), studied by the Swiss psychologist Théodore Flournoy (1854–1920), who recorded the episode in a classic work of anomalistic psychology published in English as *From India to the Planet Mars* (1900). Assigned the pseudonym "Hélène Smith" in the book, Müller grew up in a mystically inclined family and herself had strange experiences. Eventually, she became the principal figure in a Spiritualist circle, channeling messages first from prominent dead persons before graduating to more fully formed, dramatic visions of the Martian landscape. These came about after one of the sitters voiced the hope that one day human beings and Martians would be able to speak freely with one another. In due course that started to happen; not only that, Müller often found herself on the planet itself. Mars became so vivid to Müller that, as Flournoy observed, she appeared in some sense to be living her Martian life each moment of her day, switching easily—in various states of consciousness—from earthbound consensus reality to her imaginative one on another world. In today's clinical language, she appears to have possessed a fantasy-prone personality.



A sample of Smith's Martian script

Müller befriended Martians and even produced over time what purported to be a Martian language—in truth, in Flournoy's words, "an infantile travesty of French." Unsurprisingly, Müller's Mars had canals.

The American psychical researcher James H. Hyslop investigated a case of automatic writing from 1895. A clergyman's wife identified only as Mrs. Smead recorded communications from her three dead children and brother-in-law. One of the children, Maude, told her that some spirits stay on earth, while others are dispatched to other worlds. Soon thereafter, Mrs. Smead learned from another of the children that Maude and her uncle now resided on Mars, from which the little girl subsequently communicated. She provided a map which—of course—showed the canals.

Writing in *The Haunted Mind* (1959), Nandor Fodor (1895–1964), a psychoanalyst interested in psychic phenomena, remarked, "Since Emanuel Swedenborg . . . at least a dozen well-known mediums have been involved with the planet Mars." Surely the most notable—though surely the least remembered—was Hugh Mansfield Robinson, who brought old-fashioned mediumship into the age of electronic communications.

Robinson, a lawyer who lived in a London suburb, had a metaphysical bent which led him to an immersion in Eastern religion and Christian mysticism. Out of that background he was led to Martians, whom he first contacted in dramatic fashion one night in 1918. His son had just asked him how Martians are able to signal the earth (presumably popular lore on that subject spurred the question) when Robinson felt a presence near him. The presence, of a Martian woman whom Robinson soon came to know as Umaruru, said, "Come with me. I will show you."

In an interview with Fodor a decade later, Robinson said,

> I caught hold of my son's hand to remain earthbound. With my other hand—which was now a hand of my phantom body—I clasped Umaruru. With the speed of light we flew and flew. Half way I felt jerked back. That was the point where the radio waves from Mars and earth clashed and created a chaos. The grace of God helped me through. I saw a giant red glow in front of me: Mars. We got nearer and nearer and alighted inside a radio station. Umaruru called out: "That man is a medium, and jump into his body."
>
> I did so and looked at things through his eyes. I saw

> many radio towers, with sparks flashing, and antennas for reception. But the revolutions of Mars imposed a terrific strain on the etheric band that tied me to my body. I felt I was in deadly danger. As if drawn back by a snapped elastic, I felt I was rushing back to earth. In four minutes I was back and told my son of my experience.

Robinson claimed that Martian attempts to signal earth had started around 1900. With him on their side now, though, they had a new champion who would do his utmost to usher in a new age of interplanetary comity. In 1921, when a London department store got high-powered receivers which could receive signals in the then-unprecedented 30,000-meter-length range, he and radio engineer Ernest B. Rogers asked it to open itself to Martian signals at a specific time. The signals were to repeat certain letters of the alphabet in a sealed envelope Robinson had given to Rogers. Allegedly, the message came in when it was supposed to, with the requested letters. According to Robinson, "A schoolmaster in Ilfracombe, Devonshire, who had the proper apparatus and with whom I made plans to experiment, received the same mysterious signals, this time a complete sentence in Martian: UM GA WA NA. It means God is All in All. It was my birthday, and Umaruru wanted to please me. I asked for one more test: a signal that would last for a quarter of an hour. We got it, twice in sequence, with terrific energy."

Umaruru had a husband and son and, moreover, lived on earth long ago in Egypt. She and her fellow Martians wanted to help earthlings but would not force more on them than they could grasp at their state of scientific and ethical development. "There are different races on Mars, just as on this earth," he said. "The cultured ones do not differ much from us. But there are Martians who look like rats." Even the "cultured" Martians, however, were an odd-appearing bunch, if one can judge from drawings produced under Robinson's guidance. Their ears are enormous, and their heads slant upwards in long, slanting cones with the apparent textures of acorns. The men are seven and a half feet tall, the women six feet tall.

Robinson's curious beliefs attracted little attention until October 1926 and again two years later, when they were the subjects of international press coverage, much—though not quite all—of it of the tongue-in-cheek variety.

The first widely publicized episode concerned a telepathic message Robinson allegedly received from his Martian friends, who promised to send three words (*opesti nipitia secombra*) via radio signal to a London receiving station at an agreed-upon time. He put the words into a sealed envelope. When the story leaked to the press and ridicule followed, the radio station refused to cooperate. If there was a signal, it went unheard. Robinson had a back-up plan, however, and another London radio station heard another message at the appointed moment—not the three words, but two Morse code signs for the letter "M," presumably standing for Mars. A *Popular Wireless* writer, who was present, related in the October 12 issue:

> Several expert telegraphists were amongst the company that actually heard the "M's" and there is no doubt whatever of their mysterious nature. The coming of the two Morse letters without any accompanying call sign or means of identification was in itself an extraordinary fact. But quite as inexplicable was the uncanny hush that preceded the call. The loud working of the various commercial stations suddenly faded and died down, and it was on a queerly quiet background that the M-M came through. The whole effect of the signals was very weird and mystifying and it certainly created a sensation for the critical crowd of listeners that filled the room.

Robinson next appeared in the press in October 1928, when he sent a telegraphic message, at 36 cents a word, from England's Rugby Wireless Station. The coded communication read, "Love to Mars from earth." Eight minutes later, at the home of scientist A. M. Low, who had encouraged Robinson to conduct the experiment, a long wireless message arrived. "It was very mysterious," Low told United Press, "but it is hardly likely that it was a message from Mars. However, I must confess I do not know who sent it. One striking thing about it was that it was not an ordinary message. It was a long series of undecipherable dots and dashes. For example, at one time there were 11 dots followed by three dashes."

At the same time, Robinson was claiming to have a recording of the Martian national anthem, received through a medium friend. To Fodor he said that the Martians "speak like giants. Their voices roll and rock the room." Fodor went with Robinson to see the medium (in *The Haunted Mind* Fodor identified her as Mrs. St. John James) and was decidedly unimpressed. All he heard, he wrote, was "loud gibberish . . . the worst imitation of mediumship I ever witnessed." Fodor was also present at a failed wireless contact attempt in January 1929, when Robinson was to receive a "recessional Swan Song" from the Martians as their planet spun out of opposition for two years.

Robinson disappeared from the public eye after this. Reviewing the forgotten episode three decades later, a still-amused Fodor recalled the man "as slippery as a human eel."

Martian Visitors

Among the 19th-century American Spiritualists who reported Martian visions were the father and son William and Sherman Denton. The elder Denton (1823–1883), a Boston-based geologist, believed he had been blessed with the gift of psychometry, which enabled him discern the nature and history of objects he either held in his hand or, when that was impossible, focused his concentration upon. The younger Denton also thought he had the same paranormal talent. In the latter 1860s the Dentons looked to neighboring planets Mars and Venus as landscapes for psychic exploration.

In due course Sherman traveled to Mars in his astral or

spirit body. He found that it harbored a thriving population of humanlike inhabitants with a technology based on aluminum. "They soar above traffic on their individual flycycles," he reported. "They seem particularly fond of air travel. As many as thirty people occupy some of the large flying conveyances."

This account, published in 1869, may be the first printed reference, at least in English, to Martian aerial machines. The Shermans did not contend that such devices were flying through space to our planet, but it would not be long before earthbound humans were claiming to have encountered Martian ships and their crews.

From late 1896 to mid-1897, American newspapers regaled readers with stories, of widely varying plausibility, of sightings of mysterious airships. Most readers who took the tales seriously suspected that they were the creations of unknown inventors who soon would announce their aviation triumph, but a minority—five decades before UFOs entered popular lore—took a more extraordinary view: that these were craft built and flown by Martian visitors. This sort of speculation encouraged hoaxers and pranksters, and as early as November 27, 1896, a letter in a California newspaper, the *Stockton Evening Mail*, related correspondent H. G. Shaw's supposed encounter, near Lodi two days earlier, with a Martian airship and "three strange beings . . . nearly or quite seven feet high and very slender." The beings' speech sounded like "warbling," and each of the entities carried a bag with a nozzle, from which they would take an occasional breath. After unsuccessfully trying to abduct the writer and his companion—weighing only an ounce apiece, they lacked the strength—they floated into their hovering ship and sailed away. Shaw was certain, he said, that they hailed from Mars.

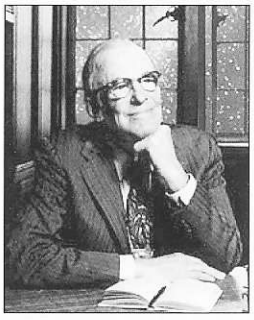
Though it is unlikely that anyone failed to recognize that this story was a barely concealed joke, a yarn published in the *Dallas Morning News* for April 19, 1897, managed to generate excitement among the unsuspecting decades later, when the article was rediscovered and not immediately recognized as a local correspondent's tall tale. An airship appeared over the tiny north Texas town of Aurora at 6 a.m. on the 17th, the *News* recounted in a brief piece, and crashed into a windmill owned by a local judge. Amid the remains residents found the "badly disfigured" body of a being, not further described, thought to be a Martian. The story concluded with the information that a funeral would be held the following day.

On April 16, according to a letter from him appearing in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* three days later, traveling salesman W. H. Hopkins witnessed a landed airship in a clearing in the hills east of Springfield, Missouri. Its two occupants, a woman (the most "beautiful being I ever beheld") and a handsome, bearded man with shoulder-length hair, stood nearby. Though neither was wearing a stitch of clothing on a cool spring day, both appeared uncomfortable, as if too warm. When Hopkins made himself known, the woman acted frightened, the man threatening, but he soon convinced them that he meant no harm. Though they spoke no English and communication took place via gestures, Hopkins eventually inferred to his satisfaction that they were Martians. They examined him "with great curiosity. . . . They felt of my clothing, looked at my gray hair with surprise and examined my watch with the greatest wonder." After giving him a tour of the ship's interior, they waved good-bye and flew away.

Waves of mystery-airship reports erupted at various times and places in the early years of the 20th century. A rash of sightings excited and baffled New Zealanders in 1909, leading one letter writer to suggest in the *Otago Daily Times* (July 29) that "atomic-powered spaceships" from Mars could be responsible. This may be the first time someone attached the specific word "spaceship" to observations of anomalous aerial phenomena.

Kenneth Arnold's sighting of nine fast-moving discs over Mount Rainier, Washington, on June 24, 1947, ushered in the UFO age and brought romantic ideas about Mars and its spacefaring population from the fringes and into the mainstream of popular culture. Within a couple of days, an anonymous press-wire reporter had both coined the term "flying saucers" and called them "Martian planes," even though Arnold had himself used no such language.

Curiously albeit coincidentally, theorizing about visitors from the red planet had already commenced. Two days prior to the sighting, on the evening of June 22, Lyman Spitzer Jr. (1914–1997), associate professor of astrophysics at Yale University, had appeared on New Haven's WTIC radio to suggest that Martians may have lived on their planet for millions of years; thus, they may have "visited the earth. . . . [U]nless they had spent some time in a large city or had landed sufficiently recently to be photographed, we would have no record of their having been here. . . . [A]ny few men who had seen them would probably not be believed by anyone else." Spitzer's thoughts were recorded in the *Hartford Courant* (but nowhere else) the next day and thus did not influence the flying-saucer scare about to escalate on the other side of the country. In the heady days and weeks following Arnold's sighting and others that came in its wake, a Detroit meteorologist expressed the view that perhaps the saucers were "signals from Mars," and R. L. Farnsworth of the American Rocket Society wondered if they were "remote-controlled electronic eyes from Mars."



Lyman Spitzer Jr.

Martians survived into the first decade of the UFO age, in ufologists' theories that sighting waves coincided with Martian oppositions and in contactees' claims of meetings with friendly Martians. Soon, though, advancing knowledge quashed any hope of anything but miscroscopic life forms. Martians have been forced to retreat into the dreams and fantasies that were always, in any event, their true home. ✦

LETTERS

DISTANCE DILEMMA

To the editor:

In Herbert S. Taylor's "Satellite Objects and Cloud Cigars," *IUR* 29, no. 1 (Spring 2004), one observation that pops out from the list of cases described is that none of them have good estimates of distance to the object. Apparent sizes are given, but because most of the sightings have a sky background (with no reference to a ground object), it is impossible to estimate distance and size. Some witnesses were guessing sizes, but these were just guesses. Based on the brief descriptions given, most of these sightings are far away from the witness (not close encounters), thus the descriptions of the objects are not detailed. Does Taylor have examples where witnesses describe the satellite objects in more detail (not as simply lights or disks)? Is there a direct descriptive link between these satellite objects and the typical "saucer" description? Or are they mainly balls of light or dark discoid shapes?

Taylor states that durations between 30–45 minutes are a frequent occurrence. Yet I find it odd that there are no photographs in any of these cases. He did mention that in the Offutt case Major Duich claimed that a full colonel took color photographs but that he denied this later. I would expect that at least one photograph would be available if the duration of these incidents is indeed that long.

I was most intrigued by the vertical positioning of the cloud cigar. Perhaps Taylor can answer some questions related to the motion of the cloud cigar.

1. What is the frequency of cases where the cigar first appears in the vertical position vs. the horizontal position?
2. Which is more common: to start in the vertical position and then move to the horizontal position, vice-versa, or to stay put in one direction?
3. When the object moves from vertical to horizontal, what is the typical motion? The bottom comes up, or the top comes down, or does it move on its axis?
4. When objects exit cloud cigars, do they always exit from the bottom (when in vertical position) or from the top? What is the typical sequence?
5. Are the cloud cigars that move from vertical to horizontal (and vice-versa) described differently from those that simply stay horizontal?

I believe that these cases have been neglected because of the lack of useful information content—no distance or size estimates, no physical traces, no radar capture, no photographs, no close-up details, no triangulation from multiple witnesses. The cases do contain lots of data on the motion and behavior of the cloud cigars and satellite objects. This complex behavior and motion does suggest intelligence. I would encourage Taylor to further investigate this behavior and the patterns behind it, since he might be able to separate the objects into subcategories according to appearance, motion, or behavior.

Tony Rullán
Martinez, California

Herbert Taylor responds:

This insightful letter presents a number of questions that deserve substantive answers. Responding in a meaningful manner is important to arrive at a better understanding of the complexities in this spectacular body of reports (both those with and without the presence of a vaporous cloud). However, because my study is still a work in progress, I have only just now begun to conduct the analysis of the data in hand that should allow me to provide Rullán and all interested parties with the answers to the questions raised. This analysis will be an important component of my ongoing satellite-object study, and I remain confident that it will be completed in a relatively short period of time.

WATER AND UFOs

UFOs are usually seen in the air, either flying or hovering. Sometimes UFOs are observed to land on the ground. But you may not know that UFOs have also been seen on, in, and under various bodies of water. This type of sighting can be very dramatic, and hard to mistake as anything but anomalous.

Here is a typical report from June 1, 1966, on Lake Ontario off Clarkson, Ontario: "At 10:30 p.m., a former RCAF pilot and a friend were cruising on the lake when they saw lights on the water ahead. As they approached within a mile, the lights rose with an audible 'swish' and a pulsating humming sound. The two men now could see that it was a disc with dome on top, and it cast an oval reflection on the lake surface. Around the dome was a row of bright yellow lights, and blue-green lights were visible around the lower perimeter (body lights). After hovering briefly, the UFO took off at high speed and quickly disappeared."—"New Reports by Space Experts Add to UFO Proof," *U.F.O. Investigator* 3, no. 9 (Aug.-Sept. 1966), pp. 3, 5.

If the witnesses made an honest report, it is hard to imagine a mundane or terrestrial explanation for their sighting. A disk-shaped object floating on the lake that can fly into the air and then away at high speed isn't a boat, and the Navy didn't have a flying submarine then, nor does it now.

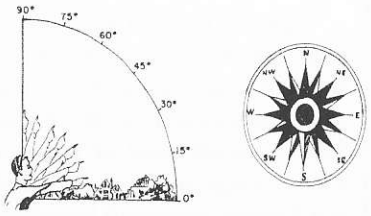
If you are intrigued by such reports, we encourage you to visit the Water UFO website (www.waterufo.net) of Carl Feindt. Carl is a CUFOS Associate who is passionate about UFO sightings associated with water, and he has constructed an impressive collection of such reports. All the data are freely available, so if you enjoy reading fascinating UFO reports, and don't mind getting a bit wet, you'll enjoy the site.

Tony Rullán also comments on the apparent lack of photographs involved in these reports. He finds it odd that this seems to be the case, particularly when lengthy duration is a frequent occurrence. Though Rullán raises a good point, it should be noted that this is a problem that afflicts all of ufology. One might also note the extreme paucity (if not a total absence) of presumably genuine photographs and films of the more numerous Close Encounter reports. While the plethora of Nocturnal Light and Daylight Disc reports have provided some apparently genuine photographs and films, bright lights at night and distant objects by day offer little evidence of what constitutes the core UFO phenomenon. Despite this problem, one should never lose sight that there does exist a very real and unresolved UFO phenomenon that deserves the serious attention of the scientific community. ✦

Blue Book Archive Puts Air Force UFO Files Online

Until now, access to Air Force UFO files has been limited to those researchers who could afford to buy the expensive collection of National Archives microfilms or who could afford to conduct their research at distant government archive locations. Thanks to the efforts of the Blue Book Archive, however, the approximately 100,000 pages of Air Force UFO files will now be available to researchers free of charge via the Internet. Interested researchers may review these documents by visiting the project's website at bluebookarchive.org.

In addition to providing an easy-to-use interface specifically designed for browsing through film rolls well over 1,000 pages in length, the archive is also searchable within the limits of current "optical character recognition" technology. The ability to quickly search through thousands of microfilm documents can often greatly reduce the need to undertake the tedious and error-prone task of manually scanning through hundreds or even thousands of images. Moreover, unlike film, the Archive's digital image scans can be enhanced with software to increase document legibility and are easy to print and easy to share via email with other researchers.



At present the Blue Book Archive contains over 18,000 pages comprising approximately 10% of the National Archive's 94 rolls of Blue Book microfilm. Additional rolls are currently in processing, thanks to the efforts of project collaborators in Italy and the United States. In time, the archive hopes to include extant portions of the Project Sign microfilm series as well as the recently discovered unredacted Maxwell AFB Blue Book microfilm collection.

It is hoped that by modernizing access to these microfilm documents a new generation of researchers and academics, weaned on the Internet and related search technologies like Google, will be encouraged to make the foray into serious UFO research.

To support its efforts, the Blue Book Archive accepts donations through their website and through the sale of microfilm scans on CD-ROM. Unfortunately, donations made in support of the Archive are not tax-deductible. To find out more about the Blue Book Archive, visit the project's website at bluebookarchive.org and navigate to the FAQ/User Guide section. There you can learn more about the the archive, how it works behind the scenes, and, most important of all, how you can help. ✦

IUR PUBLISHING SCHEDULE

Yes, this really is the Fall 2004 issue.

As all of you know, since at least 2002 the actual publication date of *IUR* has slipped behind the calendar date on the issue cover. This has naturally led to some confusion as to whether you have received all the issues for which you have paid, and when you should next renew with CUFOS.

First, be assured you will always receive four issues for your regular contribution, no matter when they are published. Let us give you an example. Assume that you renew with this issue (Volume 29, no. 3) because it is your last one. You will then receive the next four issues we publish (Volume 29, no. 4, and Volume 30, nos. 1–3). You will not receive a renewal notice until your fourth issue is actually published (likely to be sometime in 2006 because of our current delayed schedule). You will not receive a renewal notice in the fall of 2005, and you do not need to renew at that time.

This has been confusing for some time. But to put it another way, we will always remind you when to renew. So unless you receive a renewal notice with your *IUR* or get a letter in the future saying that you have missed an issue, don't worry about your Associate status.

We are making things a bit more understandable by putting the volume and number of your last issue on the mailing label, rather than the date. In fact, starting with the next issue, the magazine will not have a date on the front cover—although the month when it is actually published will appear on the inside front cover along with the copyright date, as it has since 2003.

We will continue to attempt to make up some of our lost schedule, but this isn't an easy task. We adhere to very high standards for *IUR*, publishing only the best articles, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to find material that is suitable.

If there are certain topics you'd like to see covered in *IUR*, please let us know.—*The Editors.*

ABDUCTEE'S LIFE—*continued from page 18*

in the validity of the abduction experience. In fact, if my beliefs were well known to my employers, I'd immediately lose my job. If Budd Hopkins and David Jacobs are correct about the multigenerational feature of abduction, my little daughter's well-being (or at least my control over it) is at risk—and that alone is difficult for me to contemplate. I do not want fame or notoriety because of my claim, nor do I want to turn my experience into some sort of cash-raising enterprise. After I learned that many people had similar experiences, I simply wanted to find out the truth as it concerned my own life, knowing first and last that the answers wouldn't matter to anyone but me. In short, there is no personal or monetary advantage for me to believe in the abduction experience.

Nor am I consciously aware of any escape-from-self tendencies or masochistic fantasies. I don't believe I'm stupid, particularly clumsy, or unlovable. I'm a teacher, and although this might qualify me as something of a glutton for punishment, I don't fantasize about being naked and strapped to a table in front of my students. I neither hallucinate nor suffer from delusions. I have never undergone any diagnostic treatment for sleep disorder, but then again, I don't suffer any of the symptoms.

ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS

The other night I went to see the Martin Scorsese film *The Aviator*. On my way out of the theater, I listened as two persons in front of me discussed what they had just seen. Their thoughts, impressions, and attention to details depicted in the movie differed, but one could tell immediately—in fact, there wasn't any question—that they were talking about the same show. I think this is much like the hundreds of abduction experiences I've read since, mine included. People have had remarkably similar things happen, and those experiences are colored and vary by cultural and perceptual differences from person to person.

When I was 25 years old I incurred spinal injuries and associated nerve damage. After years of unsuccessful remedies and treatments, a doctor prescribed Bextra, a Cox-2 pain inhibitor in the same family of drugs as Mercks' Vioxx (now being litigated as a potential cause of 100,000 or more heart-related fatalities). Although Bextra had given me the first real pain relief I'd had in years, I became suspicious of it when Vioxx was pulled from drugstore shelves. I called my doctor, who immediately assured me that she had in turn been assured that Bextra was not related in any way to the dangers presented by Vioxx. If I were to believe science and the FDA, I had nothing whatever to worry about. Not being an idiot, however, I stopped taking it the moment I hung up the phone.

Three weeks later, Bextra was named by Merck's whistleblower as one of the five specifically dangerous drugs under investigation. I checked with friends on similar medication. We'd all quit taking them. All of us had quit taking them because we knew better. It took an ethical whistleblower and science three weeks to catch up with what had already become apparent to many of us.

Similarly, abductees will have to suffer until science and honest inquiry catch up. I don't know if my particular path to discovery is possible any longer. Countless movies, books, and television programs have borrowed heavily from the lists to which I belonged. They've changed the landscape utterly and forever by pumping abduction elements into the mainstream culture. But I contend there is a valid core of the abduction experience, and it isn't being taken seriously. All the while, those of us having this experience know better.

I'd like to say something on behalf of the researchers and writers I've met on my personal path of discovery. The great majority are sincere, dedicated, and bright. At no time did I feel I was being led, influenced, or in any way taken advantage of. To the contrary, I was continually challenged about my memories and subsequent beliefs. These researchers, I learned, are not at all as (negatively) portrayed in mainstream media.

Being an abductee is lonely, uncomfortable, and sometimes terrifying. If I were to offer advice to someone contemplating looking more deeply into his or her own experiences, I'd urge caution. However sincerely you devote yourself, there is no solution—no bottom or end to it. I urge you to leave the potential terror alone. Enjoy the simple pleasure of being alive. Don't surrender it to those beings who already seem to take so much. ✦

RECENT IFO REPORT

April 1. Western Australia. Perth Observatory suspects that an unidentified object seen in the skies of Western Australia and the Northern Territory was space junk. Astronomer Peter Birch said the object was tracked from the south coast of Western Australia to north of Alice Springs, and has been tentatively identified as part of a Russian spacecraft launched in 1970.

"That of a large burning object in the sky, flaring getting bright, then getting dim, then getting bright again, with a tail out behind it, which is a fairly common meteor type description, but the thing that is a bit different from a meteor description is that it's been seen over such a large area and for such a long time," he said.

Alice Springs police say they received more than 20 reports of the UFO tracking across central Australian skies. Resident Fiona Higgins witnessed the rare event: "I saw what I thought was fireworks and I thought, that's strange because I didn't hear any bang like you would with fireworks and it was going horizontal not vertical and it was the most phenomenal thing with all the pretty colours," she said.—*Australian Broadcasting Corporation, April 2, 2005.*

OF INTEREST TO CUFOS ASSOCIATES

DO YOU HAVE THE COURAGE?

Do you have the courage to ask the next person you meet if he or someone he knows has ever seen what might have been a "real" UFO? Whether you have the courage or not, **try it with the next five people you meet.** Yesterday I went to the local library and asked two of the staff members that question, and I was told by one of a cousin and by the other of a mother who were witnesses. See if you can match John Timmerman! Write to: LAURA, P.O. Box 1621-IUR, Lima, OH 45802-1621.

FUND FOR UFO RESEARCH

As a partner with CUFOS in the UFO Research Coalition, the Fund for UFO Research has long been engaged in the support of scientific research and education. Tax-deductible contributions can be sent to: Fund for UFO Research, P.O. Box 277, Mt. Rainier, MD 20712.

THE STAR BEACON

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RADAR DETECTION—*continued from page 14*

not more and not less than 10 to 15 nm. There were seven controllers, all experienced professionals. The radar antenna makes one revolution every 10 seconds. This means that the UFO targets were moving 10 to 15 nm in 10 seconds. This is 1.9–2.8 kilometers/sec, which implies the targets were moving at a speed on the order of 6,700–10,000 kilometers/hr!!

No aircraft was able to do that, either in 1976 or today. This is supersonic speed (Mach 5 to 8), and even at an altitude of 10,500 meters, an enormous sonic boom should have been heard on the ground. But nothing was heard, as I verified by telephone with several surveillance services in the region.

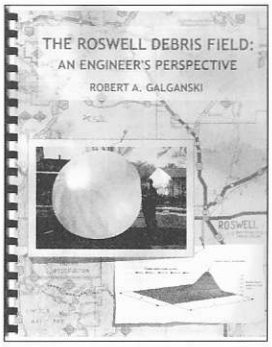
POSSIBLE IDENTIFICATION OF THE TARGETS

The air traffic controllers of Contrexéville were unanimous: These detections were not radar artifacts or the result of an anomalous atmospheric radar propagation, but real targets reflecting radar microwaves while moving at a high speed and high altitude. The three separate observations, separated by two and a half hours, during the same night, ruled out any aeronautical, meteorite, or space debris explanation. The speed of the targets was much too fast for any type of aircraft, but too slow and low for meteorites or space debris. Also, no rockets were launched in the region that night.

The brightness of the radarscope returns corresponded to quite large targets, as large as a commercial jet, when it is detected without any radar transponder operating. Because of the great distance of these UFOs from the radar controllers, no visual confirmation of the radar detection was possible. But no mundane explanation for these targets makes sense, and they remain unexplained. ✦

Updated FUFOR Publication

The Roswell Debris Field: An Engineer's Perspective, by Robert A. Galganski. This updated (3rd ed.) monograph by a veteran vehicle crash-safety researcher challenges the skeptical community's assertion attributing the disputed debris found on a pasture at the J. B. Foster ranch to wreckage from the "crash" of a Project Mogul balloon train—specifically Flight number 4. Galganski tests this hypothesis by comparing two quantities: (1) a calculated liberal estimate of the available fragmented Mogul material that would have been deposited at the site, and (2) the ground area within the outermost pieces of debris that would form a rough boundary for such a field. (Two markedly different configurations corresponding to the size/shape field championed by pro- and anti-Roswell factions were examined.)



These evaluations, one mathematical, the other employing a correctly scaled site drawing, utilize information obtained from a variety of physical experiments he performed with neoprene balloon film. Although both analyses are heavily "weighted" to favor the Mogul explanation, they nevertheless provide compelling quantitative and visual arguments that Flight 4 (or any other Mogul balloon train) did *not* create the Roswell debris field.

Spiral bound, illustrated (several in color), $21.00 postpaid. Send a check payable to R. A. Galganski, 47 Molnar Drive, West Seneca, NY 14224. ✦

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- ❑ *Delphos: A Close Encounter of the Second Kind* (Ted Phillips, 2002)
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- ❑ *Regional Encounters: The FC Files* (close encounters in the Midwest, by Francis Ridge)
- ❑ *Edge of Reality: Illinois UFO, Jan. 5, 2000* (videotape report on UFO near St. Louis)
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- ❑ *Examining the Earthlight Theory* (Greg Long) [study of the tectonic-strain theory of UFOs]
- ❑ *Near Miss with a UFO: Swissair Flight 127* (Don Berliner and Robert Durant, 1999)
- ❑ *The Cash-Landrum Incident* (John Schuessler, 1998)
- ❑ *CUFOS UFO Archive #1* (CD-ROM, Windows-only, containing three out-of-print publications, including *UFO Reports Involving Vehicle Interference; Physical Traces;* and *1973: Year of the Humanoids*)

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